

News Release

Contact:

Investors: Kerry K. Calaiaro
+1 212 837-0880
Email: calaiaro_ke@willis.com

Media: Dan Prince
+1 212 837-0806
Email: prince_da@willis.com

INDUSTRY VETERAN TO LEAD WILLIS' PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PRACTICE

New York, NY, December 14, 2004 – Willis Group Holdings (NYSE: WSH), the global insurance broker, continuing to strengthen its specialty practice groups, today announces that **Gary Beck**, with 28 years in the insurance broking industry, has joined Willis as the Professional Services Industry Practice Leader.

Mr. Beck joins Willis from the Aon Corporation where he was Of Counsel and served as an independent consultant specializing in a Legal Industry Practice group. In addition, Mr. Beck is an invited member of the Insurance section of the State Bar of Texas and acted as Exxon's principal expert in *Exxon Valdez v. Certain Underwriters at Lloyd's, London*.

The Willis Group has a long history in brokering insurance products and risk management solutions to professional services firms, but has recently formalized a practice group specifically focused on these firms' particular needs and exposures.

In his new capacity Mr. Beck will coordinate the global resources of Willis Group to focus on the unique and special needs of lawyers and other professionals. "We can offer professionals such as lawyers, engineers, and accountants one contact that can serve all their insurance and risk management needs", Mr. Beck said. "With Willis' global reach we can offer a seamless suite of coverages in portfolio package form". As a differentiator, there will be particular emphasis on proprietary insurance programs specifically tailored to professional service firms. "We can offer options such as purchasing groups, captives, and Alternative Risk Transfer methods, among others, that are very industry specific."

In addition, the Professional Service Industry Practice Group highlights Willis' *Client Advocate* business relationship model. "As does a lawyer, we vow to work hard for the client, zealously advocate for, and act in their best interest," Mr. Beck continued.

"Throughout his career, Gary has proven himself to be an innovative problem-solver," said Mario Vitale, CEO of Willis North America. "Time and again, he has grown revenue and met market challenges developing new products to meet increasingly complex client needs. Gary joining Willis is an indication of our commitment to grow this important area of our business."

Willis Group Holdings Limited is a leading global insurance broker, developing and delivering professional insurance, reinsurance, risk management, financial and human resource consulting and actuarial services to corporations, public entities and institutions around the world. With over 300 offices in over 100 countries, its global team of 14,500 Associates serves clients in some 180 countries. Additional information on Willis may be found on its web site www.willis.com.

#

Editor's Note: Photo available upon request.