

NEWS RELEASE

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WILLIS LAUNCHES JAPAN GLOBAL RETAIL PRACTICE GROUP

London and New York, July 27, 2004 - Willis Group Holdings (NYSE : WSH), the global insurance broker, announces that it has launched the Japan Global Retail Practice Group.

In an exciting demonstration of the way in which their global capabilities are combined with a totally client-focussed approach, Willis have created the Japan Global Retail Practice Group to oversee the strategy, coordination, service quality, business development and retention of Japanese retail business globally.

The Practice Group will also ensure that relationships with clients, prospects and the Japanese and other insurance markets are maximized, as well as effectively using the Global Specialty units for their clients' benefit.

The Practice Group which will report to Mario Vitale, CEO North America and Sarah Turvill, CEO International will encompass five main regions - Japan, USA, Europe, Asia/Pacific and Latin America – and will be led by the following:

- Michael Faber *Chairman*
- Michael Abbott *Global Coordinator*
- John McDonnell *United States of America and Canada*
- Donald Rushton *Japan*
- Andrew Simmons *Europe*
- Mark Hitchcock *Management reporting and Coordination*

Representation for Asia/Pacific and Latin America will be announced in due course.

Under the Chairmanship of Michael Faber, Michael Abbott will be responsible for the coordination of the activities within the five regions.

In line with their commitment to Japanese business, Willis have recently greatly strengthened and reinforced their position by the appointment of John McDonnell as North America Practice

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Group Leader together with Chris Condello and the appointment of Andrew Simmons and Michael Abbott in Europe. Further appointments will be made in the near future.

In line with this strategy, the management of the Japanese retail operations in the UK will transfer to the European Practice Group under the leadership of Andrew Simmons with immediate effect.

Welcoming the creation of the Practice – the first truly global Japanese retail practice group in any broker – **Joe Plumeri** said: “Willis’ commitment to Japanese business and the Japanese market goes back over 100 years. We are exceptionally proud of our links with Japan, an association which this Practice will now advance and deepen.

The Practice will enable us to apply our One Flag teamwork approach and *glocal* model to provide superb client service on a global basis while ensuring we capitalize on the many exciting opportunities we see developing both in the Japanese market and with Japanese business worldwide”.

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 more than 80 countries, its global team of 14,500 Associates serves clients in 180 countries. Willis is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol WSH. Additional information on Willis may be found on its web site: www.willis.com.