

News Release

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WILLIS GRANTED PATENT FOR RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Willis Senior VP Anthony F. Sullivan credited as system inventor

New York, NY, May 9, 2005 – Willis Group Holdings (NYSE:WSH), the global insurance broker, today announced that it has been granted a new patent by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Willis has been granted U.S. patent number 6,876,992 for designing an optimization tool for risk control. The Method and System for Risk Control Optimization (MSRCO), a rare patent to be awarded to an insurance broker, extends the principles of economic analysis increasing the competency of risk management tools.

MSRCO represents an improved system for calculating the greatest reduction in an organization's risk exposure with the minimum investment in cost and time as measured by the economic value added of the risk system change. The system assures that the optimal reduction in risks is achieved within the available control budget.

The methodology was developed and patented by Anthony F. Sullivan, Senior Vice President, in the Michigan office of Willis North America Inc.

"Every enterprise must manage a multitude of diverse risks that threaten organizational goals. The Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the NYSE listing rules on Board responsibilities for risk management have increased awareness of the importance of what was once primarily considered an insurance purchasing function," said Sullivan.

"Successful Enterprise Risk Management requires risks to be identified, assessed as to relative impact and controlled to acceptable levels. For every set of risks there exist a multitude of potential controls," Sullivan continued, "The Method and System for Risk Control Optimization extends the principles of economic value added analysis to enable management to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of their Enterprise Risk Management System."

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 15,800 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.

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