

# News Release

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## Willis Strengthens Focus on Canada

**Toronto, August 29, 2005** – With a series of business and organizational decisions, Willis Group Holdings (NYSE: WSH), the global insurance broker, is setting ambitious goals for market share and revenue growth – all achieved by delivering on its Client Advocate Model – across Canada. Among the changes is the relocation of its regional headquarters and new management dedicated to the company's global One Flag approach to bringing innovative and integrated business solutions to its clients' insurance matters.

In moving its Canadian headquarters to Toronto, the fifth largest city in North America, Willis is enhancing its presence in the country's financial center. Toronto has a thriving business community with a considerable insurance company presence and provides Willis important opportunities to capture significant market share. (Willis has offices in Calgary, Edmonton, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver.)

Leading the management change, **Wole Coaxum**, who has been with Willis since 2002, most recently as Chief Operating Officer of Willis North America, has been named interim Regional Executive Officer for the Canadian operations. Since joining Willis, Coaxum has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the company, a keen understanding of the complex issues of insurance and risk management, and a desire to deliver the very best to clients. Coaxum has over 15 years of experience in various leadership positions in the insurance and financial services industries.

Assisting Coaxum in building the Canadian operations is **Patrick Doig**, who recently came to Willis from Aon. Doig, who joins as Regional Partner, is a 23 year veteran of the commercial risk and insurance industry. His prior experience includes technical and financial underwriting and client and operational management. He was most recently a Senior Vice President at Aon, where he led sales initiatives and created strategies for account acquisitions. Doig was a leader in generating new accounts and revenue for Aon in the Canadian market.

"I couldn't be more excited about the prospects for the range of opportunities we have before us across Canada," said **Joe Plumeri**, Chairman and CEO of Willis. "We've got the right model – based on client advocacy, transparency and innovation – and the very best people in the global insurance industry. Now, with our Canadian headquarters moving to Toronto and Wole Coaxum leading the charge, we are poised to make significant strides in this vibrant country."

“In order to capture a commanding market share, it is vital that Willis expand and adapt to the fantastic growth opportunities currently available in Canada,” said **Mario Vitale**, CEO of Willis North America. “Having Patrick Doig in our corner, with his vast knowledge of this region coupled with his outstanding career achievements, gives us a tremendous asset toward building a stronger Canadian operation. Working along side an outstanding group of Willis professionals, I am confident Patrick will help position Willis as the preeminent insurance broker in the marketplace.”

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. Additional information on Willis may be found on its web site: [www.willis.com](http://www.willis.com).

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