

News Release

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New Office Director for Willis in Montreal Brings Extraordinary Industry Experience

New York, NY, January 17, 2006 – Willis Group Holdings (NYSE: WSH), the global insurance broker, continues to strengthen its presence in key geographic markets across North America with the appointment of key senior management to its Canadian operations. Today, the Company announced that Bernard Deschamps has joined Willis as Executive Vice President and Office Director of the Montreal operations

Deschamps joins from Groupe Ultima Inc., where he was President and General Manager. Simultaneously, he served as the General Manager and Corporate Secretary of La Mutuelle des municipalites du Quebec.

An insurance professional with impeccable integrity and known for his leadership abilities, Deschamps created a mutual insurance company (MMQ) which delivered product to over 100 brokerage offices across Quebec. Through strategic planning, organic growth, recruiting and training professionals, he has achieved tremendous new business growth and developed a client service platform necessary for the retention of new business.

“Willis is an established operation in Montreal with a long and distinguished history. With Bernard’s focus on the very best client service and aggressive growth, our Montreal operation will continue to provide client-focused, innovative services in a transparent way to the Quebec marketplace,” said Wole Coaxum, President and CEO of Willis Canada Inc. “We welcome Bernard and look forward to the contribution he is certain to make as our vibrant Montreal operation grows ever-stronger.”

“The Willis Model, building all operations around the client, is the only one of its kind among the global insurance brokers,” said Deschamps. “From the Client Advocate approach and the decentralized marketing model engaging clients every step of the way, Willis is cutting a new path in the insurance brokerage industry, and I am excited about joining this energetic organization.”

As Deschamps is held in extremely high regard in the Province of Quebec, he will work closely with the Canadian-wide leadership team, which includes Gilles Duclos, Chairman of Quebec, to deliver Willis’ world class global resources to solve Quebec clients’ problems.

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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