

News Release

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Willis Group Strengthens Global Energy Practice Phillip Ellis Joins as Global Energy Practice Leader

New York, NY, March 22, 2006 – Willis Group Holdings Limited (NYSE: WSH), the global insurance broker, today announces a significant senior appointment strengthening its global energy practice. Phillip Ellis has joined Willis as the Global Energy Practice Leader, bringing an extraordinary wealth of intelligence and experience in working with energy and energy-related clients around the world. Ellis, who is based on London, U.K., will report to David Margrett, Chief Executive Officer of Willis' Global Specialties.

Ellis joins Willis from the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) where he served for six years as leader of their Oil & Gas Practice. Prior to BCG, Ellis was with Booz Allen & Hamilton, for over 13 years, where he last headed up their Energy Practice for Europe and the Middle East. He has a history of growing significant new businesses and international teams.

He has led a number of industry-changing programs such as reorganizing the upstream headquarters of a major oil company; developing the privatization strategy for a European national oil group; and leading the design of the world's largest gas development scheme in the Middle East. Ellis designed and led a crisis scenario on gas supply to Europe for a major oil company which anticipated major risks and opportunities now facing the industry. He recently led a global benchmarking of investment criteria, methods, and decision-making cultures in the upstream oil industry, enrolling sixteen of the world's most prominent oil companies in the program. He has also been engaged in helping a large oil group develop new business in the Middle East.

Ellis received an M.S. in Management from the Sloan School of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, an M.A. in Science, Technology and Public Policy from George Washington University, and a B.S. in Atmospheric Physics from the University of California, Davis.

Commenting on today's announcement, **David Margrett** said, "Phillip Ellis is an energy professional with an outstanding reputation in the industry. His depth of knowledge and level of expertise is sure to add value to our Global Energy Practice, as we continue to explore new and better ways to increase our broking and risk management capabilities through the next evolution of the energy insurance sector."

“I am excited about the challenges and opportunities ahead,” said Ellis. “Willis has a great reputation in this sector for outstanding risk management work and I look forward to working with Sandy Vietor, Alan Brooks, Guy Bessis and the entire team of great professionals in the Energy Practice.”

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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