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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **STANDING PARTNERSHIP OPENS SATELLITE OFFICE IN PORTLAND, ORE.**

ST. LOUIS (June 17, 2005) – Standing Partnership, one of the region’s leading independent public relations firms, has opened the firm’s second office in Portland, Ore., June 1. St. Louis staffer **Ann Smith** relocated to Portland, and continues to serve existing Standing Partnership clients while pursuing local opportunities.

“Not only will we be able to use Ann’s expertise to boost West Coast support for some of our national clients, but this is also an incredible opportunity to grow beyond the Midwest,” said Cathy Dunkin, president and CEO of Standing Partnership. “We look forward to handling projects in Portland for our partners in the Worldcom Public Relations Group, a network of independent public relations firm in which we belong.”

Smith joined Standing Partnership in 2002. A native of Lakeview, Ore., and a graduate of the University of Oregon, she provides strategic planning, media relations, employee communications and special event support for clients including Maritz Inc., UniGroup, Inc. and Delaware North Companies. Previously, Smith was at Weber Shandwick in Portland, providing industry media and analyst relations for several leading technology companies.

Standing Partnership is dedicated to moving its clients forward through public relations, strategic communications and issues/crisis management. The firm has expertise in plant and life sciences, education, and tourism and hospitality; and serves clients that are headquartered in the Midwest, or companies based elsewhere that desire to have a stronger presence in the Midwest. Its client roster includes UniGroup, Inc., Maritz Inc., Monsanto Company, Partnership for a Drug-Free America, St. Louis Mills, Parents as Teachers National Center, Delaware North Companies and other industry leaders.

To contact the new satellite office, please call Smith at (503) 282-1031 or [asmith@standingpr.com](mailto:asmith@standingpr.com).

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