

## NEWS RELEASE

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### THE STANDING PARTNERSHIP NAMES VICE PRESIDENTS

ST. LOUIS (Sept. 16, 2004) – The Standing Partnership has promoted **Laura McAllister** and **Mistie Thompson** to vice president.

McAllister, who joined the firm in 2000, provides counsel and expertise for Maritz Inc.'s communications and public relations outreach effort. She also helps coordinate internal communications, community relations, and media relations efforts for Solutia Inc. Prior to joining The Standing Partnership, McAllister served as a financial communications specialist at A.G. Edwards and Sons, Inc. in St. Louis.

Thompson provides strategic counsel, special event coordination, crisis communication and message development for a leading pharmaceutical company, Maritz Inc., the Saint Louis Zoo, and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. Before joining the firm in 1999, she served as assistant director of development for the National Children's Cancer Society, where she coordinated special events across the country and created the first N.C.C.S. volunteer program.

Now in its 13th year, The Standing Partnership is a member of the Worldcom Public Relations Group, a global consortium of independent public relations firms. A generalist firm, TSP has expertise in life sciences, healthcare, hospitality and education communications. Its client list includes Maritz Inc., Monsanto, St. Louis Mills, McCarthy Building Companies, Delaware North Companies and Ranken Technical College.