

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 2/16/06

MONUMENT GROUP ANNOUNCES HIRING OF MARTIN ANTHONSEN; PLACEMENT AGENT CONTINUES TO BUILD EUROPEAN PRESENCE

Monument Group, Inc., a leading independent private equity placement agent, has further expanded its capabilities in Europe with the hiring of Martin Anthonen as Director of its newly opened London affiliate, Monument Group (UK) Ltd. With this initiative, Monument will further enhance its ability to represent alternative investment opportunities in the European marketplace and beyond. Mr. Anthonen, formerly a senior member of the investment teams at Nordic Alternative Investment Advisors AB (“NAIA”) and financial group Länsförsäkringar AB, joins Monument with nine years of global alternative investment and portfolio management experience.

Prior to joining Monument Group, Mr. Anthonen served as Chief Investment Officer at NAIA, with responsibility for the construction and management of Länsförsäkringar’s global private equity and hedge fund portfolios. His more notable responsibilities included designing and implementing portfolio strategies and evaluating funds for the life/pension fund program of Länsförsäkringar Liv. Mr. Anthonen and his team built and oversaw a well-diversified portfolio consisting of €1.3 billion committed to or invested in private equity and hedge funds, and comprised of an impressive roster of relationships with leading managers worldwide. This portfolio was recognized for its excellence by Investments and Pensions Europe, which awarded it both Best European Hedge Fund investment activities (2004) and Best European Private Equity investment activities (2004, 2005). Mr. Anthonen’s experience also extends to co-investments and advisory board roles for various notable private equity managers in Europe.

John McLaren, co-Founder and Managing Director of Monument Group, Inc., recently relocated to London from the firm’s Boston office to become the Managing Director of Monument Group (UK) Ltd. Mr. McLaren said, “Martin is exactly the candidate we were seeking to cement our presence in the European market. With his extensive hands-on investment experience and portfolio management background, he fits in very well with our existing team, and enhances with his European perspective Monument Group’s strong buy-side experience.”

Through the hiring of Mr. Anthonen, Monument Group seeks to substantially bolster the firm’s origination and fundraising abilities in the European market. In the last several years, well over \$1 billion in capital has been committed by non-US investors to funds raised by Monument Group. Monument Group has also represented select European offerings, most recently Altor Equity Partners and Patron Capital Partners, on their private equity placements. Monument Group’s principals possess extensive buy-side experience, which affords them the ability to properly position funds in the market, work closely with prospective investors, and build long-term client relationships. The principals’ close relationships with institutional investors provide their clients with the up-to-date market insights necessary to raise capital in a changing environment. By maintaining offices in both the US and Europe, Monument Group is confident that its approach to private equity placements will yield greater market penetration for its clients, as well as more diverse manager exposure for its limited partner base. Harald Mix, Founder and Managing Director of Altor Equity Partners, said, “I know Martin from his time at Länsförsäkringar and Nordic Advisors, and he is a very professional and thoughtful investor. I am convinced that he will be a great addition to the Monument team.”

About Monument Group

Founded in 1994, Monument Group, Inc. is an independent broker-dealer owned by its principals whose sole business is raising capital for superior alternative investment opportunities. Since its inception, funds raised by Monument Group have closed on over \$33 billion. Representative funds closed include Alta Communications (IX), Capital Resource Partners (III, IV, V), Cerberus Institutional Partners (Series I, II, III), Lime Rock Partners (II, III), Lime Rock Resources, Monitor Clipper Partners (I, II), Patron Capital Partners (II), Vestar Capital Partners (III, IV, V), and Walden International (Pacven Walden Ventures IV, V). Investors in these funds are located principally in the United States, Canada, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East and represent a broad base of institutions such as endowments, foundations, public and corporate pension funds, financial institutions, consultants/gatekeepers, fund-of-fund managers and wealthy individuals and families. Monument Group maintains offices in Boston and London.

2/16/2006

To contact the office of Monument Group (UK) Ltd:

John M. McLaren, Managing Director

Martin Anthonsen, Director

Claire Louth, Office Manager

Monument Group (UK) Ltd

2 St. James Place

London SW1A 1NP

PHONE: +44 (0) 207 408 9220

FAX: +44 (0) 207 408 9229

www.monumentgroup.com

Monument Group, Inc. is registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., and Monument Group (UK) Ltd is authorized and regulated by the U.K. Financial Services Authority. The information in this press release does not constitute an offer to sell, or solicitation of an offer to purchase, securities.