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MONUMENT GROUP OPENS LONDON OFFICE; PLACEMENT AGENT EXPANDS INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE

Monument Group, Inc., a leading independent private equity placement agent, is pleased to announce the opening of a London office by its affiliate, Monument Group (UK) Ltd. With this initiative, Monument will further enhance its ability to represent alternative investment opportunities in an increasingly global marketplace. John McLaren, co-Founder and Managing Director of Monument Group, Inc. has relocated to London from the firm's Boston headquarters to become the Managing Director of Monument Group (UK) Ltd. Mr. McLaren said "I'm delighted to lead Monument Group's expansion to Europe and to open our office in London. While we have developed close relationships with European investors in the past from our Boston office, having a base of operations here in London emphasizes our commitment to building relationships in this market."

Monument Group's expansion is expected to substantially bolster the firm's fundraising and origination 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 (2003 Fund) and Patron Capital Partners (II), on their private equity placements. Keith Breslauer, founder and Managing Director of Patron Capital Partners, said, "Monument Group's European office will serve to deepen its already strong relationships within the European investment community. The fact that one of the firm's co-founders will lead the office signals a commitment to continuing to approach their business in the same thoughtful manner from which Patron has benefited previously."

Founded in 1994 and headquartered in Boston, 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 approximately \$32 billion. In addition to those noted previously, 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), Monitor Clipper Partners (I, IA, II), Quadrangle Capital Partners (I), Vestar Capital Partners (III, IV), and Weston Presidio (II, III, 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, 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.

Monument Group's principals possess extensive buy-side experience, which affords them the ability to properly position funds in the market and build long-term client relationships. Monument Group's close relationships with institutional investors provide its 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. Dan O'Connell, co-founder and Managing Partner at Vestar Capital Partners, said "Vestar has worked with the folks at Monument Group for many years and has truly benefited from their knowledge of the markets and their close relationships with limited partners. Formalizing their presence in Europe will both deepen their existing relationships, and broaden their reach, reinforcing what we believe is their position as the leading independent placement agent."

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

John M. McLaren, Managing 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

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