

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****The Altman Group Hires ISS Corporate Governance Expert Reid Pearson**

NEW YORK - (BUSINESS WIRE) - April 21, 2005 - The Altman Group, Inc., the fastest growing proxy solicitation and corporate-governance consulting firm in the United States, has named **Reid Pearson** as a Managing Director. Mr. Pearson joins The Altman Group after 10 years at Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS), a proxy-advisory firm.

Mr. Pearson will counsel clients of The Altman Group on corporate governance and executive compensation issues and provide Altman clients with insight and access to large institutional investors.

While at ISS, Mr. Pearson worked in an analysis, client relations and business development role. Additionally he helped develop ISS's Voting Guidelines, oversaw the development of the ISS custom research team and wrote the analysis and vote recommendations for numerous controversial issues including proxy contests and mergers.

Mr. Pearson worked with numerous companies seeking ISS input on compensation-related proposals and also assisted many of the largest institutional investors with the development and implementation of internal voting guidelines.

"In today's challenging environment for shareholder support for management initiatives, we believe that Reid's talent and expertise will be an invaluable asset to our clients," said Ken Altman, President of The Altman Group. "Hiring Reid helps ensure that we remain the best proxy solicitation/corporate-governance consulting firm in the country."

The Altman Group recently received recognition in the proxy-solicitation industry, winning the TOPS Award last year as the Best Proxy Solicitor in the United States. The firm has also been ranked among the elite in the industry for M&A activity, with recent retentions by Qwest Communications in its pursuit of MCI, by The Robert Mondavi Corp. for its acquisition by Constellation Brands and by Mandalay Resort Group for its merger with MGM Mirage.

About The Altman Group, Inc.

The Altman Group, Inc., based in New York City, is the fastest growing proxy solicitation and corporate governance consulting firm in the United States. Founded in 1995 by Ken Altman, the firm has added over 500 new clients globally in the past 2 years. This expansion includes the development of a state-of-the-art call center with the capacity to speak with over 40,000 shareholders a day. Its senior executives have over 200 years of proxy solicitation experience and have worked on over ten thousand annual meetings, hundreds of mergers, tender and exchange offers, dozens of proxy fights and over 100 major bankruptcy cases. The firm was recently presented with the TOPS Award, recognizing it as the most highly regarded firm in the proxy solicitation industry.

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