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## Jim Wilkinson Joins Brunswick Group as Managing Partner, International Business and Financial Strategy

NEW YORK, Jan. 15 /PRNewswire/ -- Brunswick Group LLC, a leading global communications consultancy, today announced that Jim Wilkinson will join the firm as Managing Partner, International Business and Financial Strategy. Mr. Wilkinson joins Brunswick from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, where he has served since 2006 as Chief of Staff to Secretary of the Treasury Henry M. Paulson, Jr. As Chief of Staff, he has served as Secretary Paulson's senior strategist and counsellor, and has worked closely with the Secretary on crisis management and matters of domestic and international finance.

Mr. Wilkinson will be based in New York and San Francisco, and will also spend time in Brunswick's Washington, D.C. office, working closely with Hilary Rosen, Brunswick's Managing Partner and head of the Washington office.

"Jim has extensive experience dealing with complex issues in challenging communications environments in every corner of the globe," said Steve Lipin, Brunswick's Senior U.S. Partner. "These are unprecedented times, and Jim has been intimately involved with a wide variety of policy and communications issues that impact companies in the U.S. and internationally. We are confident Jim's unique insights into the current financial crisis, combined with his experience as a senior-level strategist, extensive international crisis work and management expertise will be of great value to our clients in the U.S. and around the world."

"Brunswick sets the standard internationally and here in the U.S. for high-level counsel and day-to-day support on critical issues from communications and financial strategy to mergers and acquisitions, regulatory and public affairs issues and financial restructurings," said Wilkinson. "I'm excited to join this firm and I look forward to working with my colleagues to help clients navigate these challenging times."

"Jim is a great strategic thinker. His experience of government, international relations and the financial and commercial worlds will be of tremendous value to our clients worldwide," said Alan Parker, Brunswick's Chairman. "We are thrilled to welcome him to the partnership."

Mr. Wilkinson has more than 15 years of experience in international strategy, communications, and crisis and reputational management. Prior to joining the Treasury Department, Mr. Wilkinson served as an international strategist and counsellor for the U.S. Department of State as Senior Advisor to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. He also worked with Rice at the White House as a senior strategist at the National Security Council, serving as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor for Communications. From 2002 to 2003, Wilkinson served in the Middle East as Director of Strategic Communications for General Tommy R. Franks at U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM), and from 2001-2002 he served in the White House as Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Communications for Planning.

Prior to joining the Executive Branch Mr. Wilkinson served for seven years in the U.S. Congress in several key roles for U.S. House Majority Leader Dick Armey, and as Communications Director at the National Republican Congressional Committee. Mr. Wilkinson has also served as an officer in the U.S. Navy Reserves and as a professor at The John Hopkins University teaching graduate level classes on international relations and communications. He attended business school at the University of Texas at Arlington and received his Masters degree from The Johns Hopkins University.

### About Brunswick Group LLC

Brunswick Group LLC is a private partnership with a growing team of more than 400 people, including over 75 partners. The firm has grown organically over 20 years and now has 15 wholly owned offices in 11 countries. These are Beijing, Berlin, Brussels, Dubai, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Johannesburg, London, Milan, New York, Paris, San Francisco, Stockholm, Vienna and Washington D.C. The firm's service offer comprises financial and corporate communications, investor relations, internal communications and opinion research. Brunswick was ranked in first position in the global league tables for M&A communications advisers for 2008.

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