

# Haight Cross Communications Announces Executive Appointments - and Strong First-Half Sales

## Company Launches New Internet Publishing Venture

**July 13, 2000**

Haight Cross Communications, a rapidly growing educational and professional publisher, today announced a series of executive appointments and the establishment of Skillspower.com, a major new Internet business initiative. The company also indicated that sales for the first half of its fiscal year 2000 were up 20 percent over the first half of 1999.

Haight Cross announced the appointment of Tim McEwen to the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. In this position, he will be directly responsible for all Haight Cross operating units.

McEwen, age 46, comes to Haight Cross from Thomson Learning's Lifelong Learning Group, based in Stamford, CT, where he was President and CEO. This group of publishing companies includes Prometric, Delmar, Wave Technologies, Peterson's, and Course Technology. Prior to that, McEwen was group head of Thomson's Higher Education Group, which consists of Wadsworth, Brooks/Cole, Heinle & Heinle, South-Western College, and West Educational Publishing. Earlier in his career, he held senior management and editorial positions at South-Western College Publishing, Delmar Publishers, Inc., Merrill Publishing Company, and Prentice-Hall, Inc. McEwen received an M.S. from the University of Georgia, and a B.S. from East Stroudsburg University.

Peter J. Quandt, Haight Cross Chairman and CEO said: "I am terrifically pleased to be adding Tim to our senior management group. Tim is a dynamic leader with a great track record of building companies organically as well as through acquisitions. His broad and deep Internet experience at the Lifelong Learning Group will be invaluable at Haight Cross. We believe Tim will be able to contribute immediately to Haight Cross' continued growth and profitability."

Haight Cross also announced that Paul Crecca, Chief Financial Officer, has been promoted to Executive Vice President; and that Kevin McAliley, formerly President and CEO of Haight Cross Publishing, has been promoted to President and CEO of Skillspower.com, a newly formed Haight Cross Communications company specializing in Internet-delivered K-12 state test preparation materials.

Crecca, age 43, joined Haight Cross in 1998, coming from Marvel Comics Group, where he was Chief Financial Officer. Prior to that, he held senior positions with Dun & Bradstreet International and Ernst & Young. He earned MBA and BA degrees from Rutgers University.

McAliley, age 40, joined Haight Cross in 1999. Prior to that, he was President and CEO of Primedia's Channel One Network and President and CEO of Films for the Humanities and Sciences, Inc. He earned a BA from Harvard University and an MBA from Columbia University.

"Paul and Kevin have played major roles in Haight Cross' success. Paul has been enormously effective in growing and financing our business. Kevin has been integral in building Haight

Cross, both through our highly successful acquisitions program and providing strong operations leadership. We believe that Kevin will quickly build Skillspower.com into the educational publishing industry's most successful Internet venture."

Commenting on Hights Cross' performance in the first half of 2000, Quandt said: "Hights Cross is on track to have another great year, our third consecutive year of strong double-digit growth. Revenue for the half was approximately \$80 million, with extremely strong margins and strong profit growth. We are delighted with the performance of our businesses."