

HAIGHTS CROSS COMMUNICATIONS **PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HAIGHTS CROSS COMMUNICATIONS TO SELL OAKSTONE PUBLISHING

White Plains, NY, April 19, 2004 – Hights Cross Communications, Inc. (HCC) announced today that it intends to sell its Oakstone Publishing unit. HCC has engaged investment banking firm Lane, Berry & Co International to identify and evaluate potential buyers. The company said it hopes to complete a sale in the third quarter of this year.

Oakstone Publishing is comprised of Oakstone Medical, which was founded in 1975 and acquired by HCC in 1997, and Oakstone Wellness, founded in 1988 and acquired by HCC in 1998. Oakstone Publishing is headquartered in Birmingham, AL. Oakstone Medical provides subscription-based continuing medical education solutions for doctors and other health professionals. Oakstone Wellness provides subscription-based employee health and wellness newsletters and ancillary products that are sold to corporations in bulk. Oakstone Publishing had 2003 revenue of \$18.2 million, and achieved compound annual growth of 6.6% on revenue and 20.2% on EBITDA over the period 1999 to 2003.

Peter J. Quandt, HCC chairman and CEO, said: “Oakstone Publishing is an excellent company with a talented team, a large and loyal customer base, and excellent prospects for the future. As a leader in its market, we believe Oakstone is an attractive asset that will be of great interest to prospective buyers. Our decision to divest Oakstone is based on our long-term strategic commitment to building HCC’s position as a premier, pure-play K-12 educational and library publisher. This week’s acquisition of Buckle Down Publishing, which will be a division of our Triumph Learning company, is another significant step in this direction. We are looking at additional acquisitions in the educational and library market.”

In 2003, in two separate transactions, HCC sold Oakstone's Andrews Publishing unit, a leading publisher of supplemental legal materials, to West, a unit of The Thomson Corporation (TSX:TOC; NYSE:TOC) and the Oakstone Legal and Business unit, a provider of practical legal information to the education and human resources market, to Progressive Business Publications.

About Hights Cross Communications:

Founded in 1997 and based in White Plains, NY, Hights Cross Communications is a premier educational and library publisher dedicated to creating the finest books, audio products, periodicals, software and online services, serving the following markets: K-12 supplemental education, public and school library publishing, audio books, and medical continuing education publishing. Hights Cross companies include: Sundance/Newbridge Educational Publishing (Northborough, MA), Triumph Learning (New York, NY), Recorded Books (Prince Frederick, MD), Che lsea House Publishers (Langhorne, PA), and Oakstone Publishing (Birmingham, AL). Hights Cross investors include Great Hill Partners and Peter J. Quandt. For more information visit www.hightscross.com.

Safe Harbor Statement: This press release contains forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "may," "will," "should," "could," "would," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "believe," "potential" and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties. These risks, uncertainties and other factors may cause our actual results, performances or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements. Factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from our forward-looking statements include, among others, changes in external market factors, changes in our business or growth strategy, or an inability to execute our strategy due to changes in our industry or the economy generally, the emergence of new or growing competitors and various other competitive factors. In light of these risks and uncertainties, there can be no assurance that the events and circumstances described in forward-looking statements contained in this press release will in fact occur. You should read this press release completely and with the understanding that our actual results may be materially different from what we expect. We will not update these forward-looking statements, even though our situation may change in the future. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.
