

HAIGHTS CROSS COMMUNICATIONS **PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HAIGHTS CROSS COMMUNICATIONS ANNOUNCES EXECUTIVE'S RESIGNATION

White Plains, NY, December 18, 2003 – Hights Cross Communications, Inc. (HCC) today announced the resignation of Timothy McEwen, HCC executive vice president and chief operating officer, effective December 31, 2003. Mr. McEwen will assuming the position of President/CEO of Harcourt Achieve based in Austin, Texas.

Peter J. Quandt, HCC chairman and CEO, said: “We would like to thank Tim for his contributions to HCC and wish him continued success in his new ventures.”

Peter J. Quandt will be assuming the responsibilities held by Tim McEwen.

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, audiobooks, 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), Chelsea House Publishers (Broomall, PA), and Oakstone Publishing (Birmingham, AL). Hights Cross investors include Great Hill Partners and CSFB (formerly DLJ Merchant Banking Partners, L.P.) 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.
