

HAIGHTS CROSS COMMUNICATIONS

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Buckle Down Publishing Announces the Expansion of its *SkillBridge* Series to 13 States — Designed to Help Students Master 15 Essential Skills

New York, NY, September 22, 2009. Buckle Down Publishing, division of Triumph Learning, LLC, a Hights Cross Communications company, has expanded its successful *SkillBridge* series for reading and mathematics, grades 3-8. The *SkillBridge* series is now available in Arizona, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania. *SkillBridge* focuses on the 15 skills students find most challenging on the state test and is unique in its solid research foundation. Each of the 15 skills covered is selected through extensive analysis of state test results.

The lesson plans in *SkillBridge* for reading and math are built around best instructional practices, fostering the acquisition of the skills that students find most difficult. Each lesson starts with guided practice and support, followed by independent work that allows students to apply the skill in context.

In each lesson, an introduction to the skill is followed by examples to build understanding. Content includes state-specific references, framing practice in a context that is familiar to students. As students move through the lessons, they increase proficiency, gain confidence, and become skill savvy.

Features of the new *SkillBridge* series include:

- “Build a Bridge” sidebars that provide scaffolded support for skill acquisition
- “Making Connections” that provide state-specific examples
- Key words that focus on critical concepts
- Illustrations and graphics that support instruction

“*SkillBridge* meets the strong need for instructional materials that focuses on the most challenging skills,” says John Lawler, CEO of Triumph Learning and Buckle Down Publishing. “As students strive for success, educators rely on *SkillBridge* to provide the instruction and reinforcement that leads to real understanding and skill competency.”

About Buckle Down Publishing:

Buckle Down Publishing, a division of Triumph Learning, LLC, is one of the nation's leading publishers of state-specific, test-preparation materials. Founded in 1982 and based in New York, NY, Buckle Down creates supplemental student workbooks and practice tests that combine standards-based review and test-formatted practice with regionalized content. Triumph Learning is the largest publisher of standards-focused materials used to prepare for the tests mandated by NCLB legislation. For more information, visit www.BuckleDown.com.

About Triumph Learning, LLC:

Triumph Learning is the tenth-largest supplemental educational publisher in the US, and a market leader in state-specific test-preparation materials. Its three imprints (*Coach*, *Buckle Down*, and *Options*) are based in New York City, New York and Littleton, Massachusetts.

About Hights Cross:

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 libraries, and consumers. Hights Cross companies include: Triumph Learning, Buckle Down Publishing and Options Publishing, and Recorded Books. For more information, visit www.hightscross.com. Triumph Learning is HCC's test-preparation and intervention business and is comprised of its *Coach*, *Buckle Down*, and *Options* brands. Recorded Books is a leading publisher of unabridged audiobooks and other audio media for libraries, schools, and consumers, with operations in the U.S., U.K. and Australia.

Safe Harbor Statement:

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the Company's plans, intentions and expectations. Such statements are inherently subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. The forward-looking statements that we make in this Current Report are subject to a variety of risks, uncertainties, and other factors known and unknown that could cause actual results to differ materially from such forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to the completion of the Company's announced restructuring and planned operation of our business, including the outcome and impact on our business of any resulting proceedings under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Company makes no assurance that it will be successful in consummating the proposed Plan and restructuring or any other restructuring proposal on favorable terms if at all, which could also adversely affect the Company's business plans and expectations. As a result, the Company makes no assurance that the treatment of creditors outlined in this report and the term sheet included in the Support Agreement will not change significantly. A more extensive discussion of the risk factors that could impact these areas and the Company's overall business and financial performance can be found in the Company's reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The risks included above are not exhaustive. The Company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any such statements to reflect any change in the Company's expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.