



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dennard Rupp Gray & Easterly, LLC Announces Senior Management Promotions and New Vice President

DRG&E now represents over 25 companies with aggregate revenues of over \$13 billion

HOUSTON – MAY 16, 2005 – Dennard Rupp Gray & Easterly, LLC (DRG&E), a leading provider of advanced investor relations counsel and innovative analytical services for public and private companies, today announced two senior management promotions and the addition of a new vice president.

Lisa Elliott has been promoted to Senior Vice President, IR Counsel[®] and Karen Roan has been promoted to Senior Vice President, Market Intelligence. Additionally, Sheila Stuewe has joined the firm as Vice President, IR Counsel.

Ken Dennard, co-founder and managing partner of DRG&E, stated, “We’re very excited to announce these promotions. Both Lisa and Karen have been instrumental in growing our business thanks to the excellent quality of service they provide to our clients.

“We are also very pleased to announce that Sheila Stuewe has joined our IR Counsel team, who brings us extensive investor relations experience to her new role at DRG&E. As we expand our human capital to better serve our clients, attracting experienced professionals like Sheila is critical to our continued success.”

Stephen Gray, co-founder and CEO, added, “For the past several years, DRG&E has been pioneering the next generation of best practices in investor relations services from the traditional agency model to a more transparent and compliance-based model created by the combination of proactive investor relations and superior analytical services. Today’s promotions and management addition demonstrate our commitment to provide discernible value-added investor relations and analytical services to clients.”

Lisa Elliott has been with DRG^{&E} for over six years and has more than 20 years of experience in investor relations, corporate communications and public capital markets. For the five years prior to DRG^{&E}, she worked as an independent investor relations consultant. From 1990 until 1993, Ms. Elliott was Vice President of Investor Relations for Nuevo Energy where she established the investor relations department. From 1988 to 1990, Ms. Elliott was the Vice President of Investor Relations at Energy Assets International Corp., Nuevo's predecessor entity. Ms. Elliott's IR experience has included writing and publishing assignments such as annual reports, press releases and editorial features for publications including Financial Planning Magazine and Oil and Gas Investor. She earned series 63 and series 7 licenses as a securities broker at Dean Witter Reynolds. She served as President of the Houston Chapter of the National Investor Relations Institute during the 1995-96 program year.

Karen Roan has been with DRG^{&E} for over four years and, prior to that, worked in the area of Institutional Equity Sales for 15 years, most recently as a Vice President at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette. While at DLJ, Ms. Roan was responsible for marketing the firm's research and capital markets products, including initial public offerings and follow-on offerings. Prior to her career in Institutional Sales, she was an Investment Trust Officer and Financial Analyst at Texas Commerce Bank in Houston. During her investment career, she earned her Series 7 and Series 63 licenses and passed the Chartered Financial Analyst Exam 1. Ms. Roan has also worked as an analyst on independent research projects and worked as a securities trader. She graduated from the SMU School of Business with a B.B.A. in Finance.

Sheila Stuewe brings to DRG^{&E} over 10 years of investor relations and corporate communications experience with various size organizations ranging from start-ups to *Fortune 500* companies. Most recently she served as Director of Investor and Public Relations with Advance Auto Parts, where she launched its investor relations program. Prior to joining Advance Auto Parts she led the investor relations efforts at AutoNation (1998 to 1999) and AutoZone (1990 to 1996). While at AutoZone she created "AutoZone by the Numbers," a comprehensive publication for investors to quickly visualize operating trends. Ms. Stuewe's background also includes raising venture capital and working as an associate research analyst at Prudential Securities Inc. She received her MBA from the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University.

About DRG&E

Dennard Rupp Gray & Easterly, LLC, headquartered in Houston with an office in Atlanta, provides a full range of investor relations and analytical services, financial media communications services and strategic counsel to enhance the visibility, transparency and credibility of its clients within the investment and business communities.

DRG&E expanded its traditional *IR Counsel*[®] in 2002 by introducing *InsideOutlook*[®], a ground-breaking new service staffed by experienced former sell-side research analysts. *InsideOutlook* provides public companies unprecedented 24/7 access to experienced analysts who assist clients in developing enhanced public disclosures that increase operational and financial transparency, build management credibility, and help clients effectively communicate the right message to the investment community.

Since inception in 1997, DRG&E has contracted with over 45 companies and currently represents over 25 public and private companies totaling over \$13 billion in cumulative revenues with an aggregate workforce of approximately 65,000 employees. Some of the company's clients include: Allis-Chalmers Energy; BPZ Energy; Carriage Services; Copano Energy; Gexa Energy; Globeleq; Hornbeck Offshore Services; Integrated Electrical Services; Input/Output; Men's Wearhouse; Mission Resources; Morgan Beaumont; Reddy Ice; Pioneer Drilling Company; Powell Industries; Prisma Energy; Quanta Services; Stage Stores; TGC Industries; United Fuel & Energy; US Dataworks; US Physical Therapy; W&T Offshore; Westlake Chemical Group; and Willbros Group.

For information regarding DRG&E clients or its services, please dial 713-529-6600 or visit the website at <http://www.drg-e.com>. DRG&E's Houston office is located at 1800 West Loop South, Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77027. DRG&E's Atlanta office is located at 640 Glen Iris Drive, Suite 610, Atlanta, Georgia 30308.

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