

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Harcourt Achieve Selects Randy Pennington for Senior Vice President of Sales

Randy Pennington to Manage Rigby and Steck-Vaughn Product Sales

AUSTIN, TX – April 17, 2006 – Harcourt Achieve announced today that James R. (Randy) Pennington has been named the company’s Senior Vice President of Sales for the Rigby/Steck-Vaughn product lines. Pennington joins the company from Pearson Learning Group, the supplemental materials division of Pearson Education. At Pearson he served as Senior Vice President of Sales/National Sales Manager.

“Randy’s knowledge and success in strategic educational sales will add great value to the company,” says Harcourt Achieve President and CEO Tim McEwen. “His appointment to this key position comes at just the right time as Harcourt Achieve addresses K-12 market needs for research-based, comprehensive reading and intervention programs. We look forward to his leadership of our national sales.”

In addition to his work with Pearson Learning Group, Pennington has held senior positions with Compass Learning, Computer Curriculum Corporation, Chancery software, and was Director for K-12 Marketing at Apple Computer. He also held leadership positions in educational areas, as a teacher, high school principal, and Director of Educational Technology for the State of Georgia.

As Senior Vice President of Sales at Harcourt Achieve, Pennington will oversee sales of education products published under the Rigby and Steck-Vaughn imprints.

“I am excited to join the outstanding team of professionals at Harcourt Achieve who are focused on providing educators with proven products that support effective learning,” says Pennington. “The Steck-Vaughn and Rigby brands lead the field in today’s educational environment. These well-known brands and classroom-tested new products are designed to help educators improve student learning and achievement.”

About Harcourt Achieve

Harcourt Achieve produces learning solutions and content that fundamentally and positively change the lives of young and adult learners. Published under the Rigby, Saxon and Steck-Vaughn imprints, its products are based on a developmental philosophy that assesses learners’ skills, matches them to appropriate content and accelerates them to meet and exceed expectations.

The Steck-Vaughn imprint offers easy-to-use, innovative learning solutions that accelerate content-area knowledge, reading skills, and preparation for standards-based tests, allowing learners to meet and exceed expectations. The Rigby imprint offers progressive learning solutions for core reading and English Language Learner instruction that provide differentiated instruction to match each student's instructional level. The

Saxon imprint offers the nation's best selling and most thoroughly researched skills-based mathematics program for grades K-12, as well as popular phonics, K-3 spelling, and early learning programs. For more information, please visit www.HarcourtAchieve.com.

Harcourt Achieve is part of Harcourt Education, a global education provider serving students and teachers in Pre-K through grade 12, adult learners and readers of all ages. The Harcourt Education companies are Harcourt School Publishers; Holt, Rinehart and Winston; Harcourt Achieve; Harcourt Assessment; Classroom Connect; Harcourt Religion Publishers; Harcourt Trade Publishers; Greenwood/Heinemann and Heinemann Global Library. For more information, please visit www.harcourt.com.

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