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Kevin Brueggeman joins Harcourt Assessment to lead new Education Assessment Products and Services group

Linda McGarvey also joins firm as head of Education Product Development

SAN ANTONIO, Aug. 31, 2006 – Harcourt Assessment, Inc. announced today the addition of two senior testing executives to strengthen the company's education assessment business. Kevin Brueggeman will be joining the company as Executive Vice President and General Manager to head the newly-formed Education Assessment Products and Services group. He will report to Harcourt Assessment President and CEO, Michael Hansen. Linda McGarvey will also be joining the organization as Vice President, Education Product Development, reporting directly to Brueggeman. Both will join Harcourt effective September 12, 2006.

Brueggeman comes to Harcourt from assessment publisher AGS Publishing, a subsidiary of Pearson Education, where he served as President since 2003. Prior to that, he held senior positions at Experior Assessments and NCS Assessments. He brings a wealth of experience in testing and business development in the assessment industry.

McGarvey held senior positions at Riverside Publishing Company, Houghton Mifflin's K-12 assessment division, where she served as Vice President, Product Development from 2003-2005, and CTB/McGraw-Hill, where she served in a series of increasingly senior roles from 1987-2001. She also served as CEO of testing services firm Acuity Learning.

The new group to be headed by Brueggeman will include all of Harcourt Assessment's educational assessment products and services. The company's clinical and international testing businesses will continue to be headed by Aurelio Prifitera, Publisher and President of HAI International, who has been serving as interim head of Educational Product Development.

Commenting on the changes, Hansen said, "We are committed to strengthening both the education and clinical sides of the business; placing our education products and services in a single group will provide the necessary focus and accountability to do just that. I am delighted to have someone with Kevin's extensive background and impressive track record heading up the new group. Linda is a proven innovator with a keen understanding of the needs of our education testing customers, and I am confident she will provide strong product development leadership."

About Harcourt Assessment, Inc.

Based in San Antonio, Harcourt Assessment, Inc. is a leading provider of high-quality assessment instruments and testing programs published under two brand names — Harcourt Assessment® and PsychCorp™ — used by educators, psychologists, speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, human resource professionals, admissions and credentialing professionals, and businesses, helping them improve the lives of individuals of all ages.

The company is a unit of Harcourt Education, a global education provider serving students and teachers in PreK through grade 12, adult learners, and readers of all ages. Harcourt Education is part of Reed Elsevier Group plc. (www.reedelsevier.com), a world-leading publisher and information provider. It is owned equally by Reed Elsevier PLC (NYSE: RUK) and Reed Elsevier NV (NYSE: ENL).

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