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We wanted to share good news with you. Scherer Schneider Paulick LLC (SSP) is adding a greater global presence and expertise to better serve our clients. We sold a majority interest in our company to BPI, the leading European firm in human resources consulting and people management. We'll now be known as SSP BPI Group.

While our name is changing, we're not changing the way we do business or the way we always try to over deliver our services. We'll continue to provide the high-quality, personalized services that clients have come to expect and that you can rely on us to provide to anyone you refer. The three managing partners have also made a long-term commitment to remain as leaders with the company. This affirms our strong belief in our clients, our services and BPI. The current leadership and operating teams also remain at our six offices, and both SSP BPI Group and BPI remain members of OI Partners.

What's different is that we now have a global presence and additional resources to offer broader and deeper services, especially in high-end and mid-range career transition and in executive coaching. Our initial plans call for expanding with two new offices in Chicago and Milwaukee in 2008. The Chicago office will offer high-end services exclusively for C-level executives. It will complement our existing services while adding resources to help U.S. executives understand and tap into the European marketplace. In addition, we're opening a second Wisconsin office in Milwaukee to offer transition, executive coaching and leadership development services to meet growing client needs in that market.

With this merger, SSP BPI Group is now part of the world's third largest and only independent career transition firm owned by its managers – not wholly owned by a corporation, operating company or temporary staffing firm. Founded in 1984, BPI operates in 72 offices in 15 European, North African, North American and South American countries. This gives us a strong global network and allows us to offer new ideas and approaches that have been effective for executives and leaders worldwide. We also share the same business philosophy with BPI: We believe each client has unique needs, and we deliver practical and relevant career management solutions to meet those needs. This shared view was a key driver for the transaction.

SSP BPI Group will be headed by Juan Luis Goujon, who was the president of the Spanish and Portuguese subsidiaries of BPI, which he established in 1991. He's relocating to Chicago, and the managing partners will be working closely with him to lead the firm. We hope you'll be able to attend our holiday reception on Dec. 3 to meet Juan Luis.

In the meantime, please keep our expanded reach and resources in mind if we can ever assist you. If you have any questions, please call us: Jay Scherer at 312.577.4001 or Paul Schneider at 630.203.2400 in the Chicago area; Kevin Pallardy at 314.542.2121 in St. Louis; or Mike McDermott at 262.886.2750 in Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Juan Luis Goujon

Paul Schneider

Jay Scherer