

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE ASSOCIATION FOR CORPORATE GROWTH (ACG) WESTERN MICHIGAN CHAPTER
APPOINTS CHUCK SMEESTER TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

GRAND RAPIDS, MI. March 7, 2008— The Association for Corporate Growth (ACG) Western Michigan Chapter has appointed Chuck Smeester, co-founder of William Charles Search Group, to its Board of Directors. The ACG is a global association for professionals involved in corporate growth, corporate development, and mergers and acquisitions. Many of West Michigan's leading companies are members of ACG.

"I am pleased to join the ACG Board of Directors," said Chuck Smeester, co-founder of William Charles Search Group. "The ACG is an excellent venue for advancing information sharing and networking on topics related to growing organizations."

The Western Michigan Chapter of the ACG (www.acg.org) was founded in 1954, and has nearly 12,000 members and 53 chapters. ACG members meet monthly to network, share best practices, and jump start their own growth initiatives from mergers and acquisitions to new product launches. Members are typically CEOs, CFOs, presidents, vice presidents or partners from corporations, private equity, finance, and professional service firms representing Fortune 500, Fortune 1000, FTSE 100 and mid-market companies in 48 chapters in North America and Europe.

ABOUT CHUCK SMEESTER: Chuck Smeester, co-founder of William Charles Search Group, is a former financial service industry executive with more than 15 years of operations, human resources, and general leadership experience. Prior to entering the executive search profession, Chuck spent 12 years at a \$20 billion banking and financial services firm in Michigan, where he served as Senior Vice President and Manager of Corporate Operations, and Vice President and Director of Human Resources.

Chuck has more than five years' direct experience recruiting managerial and senior level executives, up to and including the CEO level. Having sat on the executive side of the desk for many years, Chuck combines his extensive industry knowledge and contacts with his natural ability to recruit the best candidate to every assignment.

Chuck received a master's degree in Industrial and Labor Relations from the University of Wisconsin and bachelor's degrees in Business Administration and Psychology from St. Norbert College in Wisconsin.

Chuck is active in his community, and currently serves on the board of Michigan Works!, the Kent/Allegan Workforce Development Board, where he chairs the Adult Education Committee. He serves as Secretary with the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre's Board of Directors. He is also a past Board Chair of Junior Achievement of the Michigan Great Lakes and currently serves as an Advisory Committee member.

ABOUT WILLIAMCHARLES SEARCH GROUP: William Charles Search Group is a Grand Rapids-based professional search company that provides executive search, retained and contingency placement services primarily within the financial, manufacturing, consumer goods, service and non-profit sectors. The company specializes in placing high-end executives such as CEO, CFO and COO down to middle-level managers and executive support-level professionals through the firm's various specialty business units: *William Charles Executive Search*, *ExecSupport* and *Financial Edge*. For more information about William Charles Search Group, visit www.william-charles.com or call (616) 464-4355.