



News Release

CHR Solutions and Martin Group Merge to Form Largest Single-Source of Support and Services for Rural Telecommunications Clients

Houston, TX and Mitchell, SD – (September 25, 2009) In a strategic move designed to create the largest, single-source, resource-rich delivery of support and services to their client base, CHR Solutions of Houston and Martin Group of Mitchell announced the companies have merged, effective September 25, 2009.

The merged entity will retain the CHR Solutions name, with company headquarters located in Houston. An additional 13 offices will span eight states. The locations include: Austin, Texas; Camden, Arkansas; Columbia, Missouri; Dallas, Texas; Lubbock, Texas; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Missoula, Montana; Mitchell, South Dakota; Nashville, Tennessee; Rapid City, South Dakota; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Springfield, Illinois and Wichita, Kansas. More than 425 employees will be available to serve client needs.

CHR Solutions is a premier, multi-faceted consulting and managed service IT/infrastructure provider with a 60 year heritage of serving clients in the rural telecommunications, energy and finance market segments. CHR Solutions integrated offerings include engineering, financial services, marketing, regulatory/business compliance, operational optimization, association management, wireless initiatives, strategic planning, IT managed services, remote infrastructure management (RIM), a managed network operation center, data center and applications development.

Martin Group is the nationwide leader of software solutions, business services and engineering resources, serving rural telecom provider and tier 2 & 3 CLEC clients with advanced operation support systems and billing support systems, engineering and consulting services. Martin Group's expertise has led to development of international clients as well.

The combined company will be a resource-rich, single-source provider using locally based delivery teams guiding clients to grow revenue, control costs, improve operations, manage risks and align technology with business goals. CHR Solutions will provide services to more than 800 clients in all 50 states, as well as internationally. Clients can expect unsurpassed capabilities and dedication to satisfaction from the management-owned company led by experienced and committed industry experts.

James Taylor, chairman and chief executive officer of CHR Solutions, said: "This merger demonstrates the commitment we've made to our clients to expand resources to meet the demands of an ever-changing business and technology marketplace while maintaining our personalized, customized delivery structure. It increases our capabilities and provides clients an outstanding opportunity to single-source their needs for superior coordination and efficiency."

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News Release

Jim Odom, president and chief executive officer of Martin Group, said: “We are thrilled to offer clients the expanded support and services that result from our combined employee teams. World-class expertise will be available through local, client-focused delivery teams giving clients the best of both worlds. This merger provides great opportunity for our clients and our employees. It reflects the commitment and entrepreneurial spirit that both companies embrace.”

Mr. Taylor will be the chairman and chief executive officer of the combined companies. Dr. Arun Pasrija will be president and chief operating officer of the enterprise. Mr. Odom will be the president of the company’s software solutions business unit, complementing Mr. Roger Hutton, president of the telecommunications and infrastructure business unit and Mr. Ray Webb who oversees the IT and managed services business unit.

About CHR Solutions:

CHR Solutions is a premier provider of consulting and IT managed services/infrastructure to the rural telecommunications, energy and finance market segments. In addition to engineering, financial services, regulatory/compliance, marketing, association management, wireless strategies, strategic planning and operational optimization, the firm provides IT managed services, remote infrastructure management, data center services, security and disaster recovery, applications development and infrastructure development, as well as a network operations center. CHR Solutions is headquartered in Houston, TX, with offices in Austin, TX; Lubbock, TX; Camden, AR; Columbia, MO; Dallas, TX; Minneapolis, MN and Springfield, IL.

About Martin Group:

Martin Group was founded in 1971 and has grown to be the nationwide leader in software solutions, business services and engineering serving rural telecom provider and tier 2 and 3 CLEC clients. The company’s advanced BSS/OSS software platforms are used by clients throughout the country and internationally. In addition to its multiple platforms (VMS, Omnia), Martin Group has an extensive, talent-rich engineering staff and also provides business essential services such as invoice development, printing and delivery. Martin Group is headquartered in Mitchell, SD with office in Missoula, MT; Nashville, TN; Rapid City, SD; Sioux Falls, SD and Wichita, KS.

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