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FOR RELEASE: Thursday, Aug. 28, 2003

**HARCOURT ASSESSMENT NAMES JOHN TANNER
VICE PRESIDENT OF TESTING SERVICES**

SAN ANTONIO – Harcourt Assessment announced today that John Tanner has been named vice president of testing services. In this position, he will oversee the development of custom and proprietary test programs, including content development, editing and item procurement.

“As an educator, John Tanner recognizes the importance of quality assessment programs and how they can be used to help children achieve,” said Jeff Galt, Harcourt Assessment’s president and chief executive officer. “He has a keen understanding of the test development process, and an outstanding ability to work with customers to meet their needs.”

Tanner has held several management positions at Harcourt Assessment, most recently as vice president and head of the national measurement consultant team supporting federal and large district accounts. In this position, he and his team helped design and implement assessment programs for states and large districts across the country.

Previously, Tanner was vice president of sales for Harcourt’s Northeast region, which included 12 states and Washington, D.C., and helped secure new business in several key markets that had previously been difficult to penetrate. Tanner joined the company in November 1999 as a national measurement consultant and scored four major contract wins worth approximately \$100 million.

Before he joined Harcourt, Tanner was director of assessment and analysis for Delaware’s Department of Education. In this position, he created and implemented a testing program that combined the best of both norm-referenced and criterion-referenced assessments, and he worked directly with

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schools and districts to help them use test data to better understand students and improve student achievement.

As an education associate and consultant at the National Center on Education and the Economy, Tanner developed English language arts standards and corresponding reference examinations and other assessments, including scoring systems for student portfolios. These standards and examinations are still used widely in schools and districts throughout the United States.

Tanner has made numerous presentations and published many articles on testing, accountability and standards-based assessment. He has also participated in several educational projects, including the Committee on the Evaluation of the Voluntary National Test, and the National Education Goals Panel Advisory Board. He has also provided consulting services to school districts and state departments of education.

Tanner is a member of the American Educational Research Association and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Tanner holds a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in rhetoric and composition, both from Brigham Young University, and he has completed doctoral coursework in rhetoric and composition at Texas Christian University.

Based in San Antonio, Harcourt Assessment is a leading provider of high-quality assessment instruments and testing programs. Its educational products include the Stanford Achievement Test series and the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test[®]. It also offers a wide range of clinical products, such as the Wechsler[®] family of tests, which includes the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children[®].

The company is a unit of Harcourt, Inc., which is a global publishing and education company serving students and teachers from pre-kindergarten through grade 12, adult learners and readers of all ages. Harcourt is a member of the Reed Elsevier Group plc (NYSE: RUK and ENL) -- a world-leading publisher and information provider operating in the science and medical, legal, education and business-to-business industry sectors.

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