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MARIO MARCONINI TO LEAD NEW SÃO PAULO OFFICE FOR MANATTJONES MARCONINI GLOBAL STRATEGIES

Washington, D.C., June 7, 2006 - ManattJones Global Strategies, LLC, announced today the formation of ManattJones Marconini Global Strategies, headquartered in its new office in São Paulo, Brazil. Mario Marconini, former Trade Secretary, Ministry of Development, and Deputy Secretary for International Affairs, Ministry of Finance in Brazil, will head the São Paulo office. Mr. Marconini has 20 years of experience in international business and government affairs, including ten years in Geneva, Switzerland, as a Counselor at the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Currently representing and advising government, trade organizations alongside domestic and multinational firms in Brazil, Mr. Marconini has an in-depth understanding of government and business cultures in Brazil and throughout Latin America and of relationships with Europe, the United States, and the Asian and Pacific-Rim countries.

“Global investors see Brazil as one of the fastest-growing emerging economies,” said Ambassador James R. Jones, ManattJones’ CEO. “Mario has the expertise, depth and breadth of experience, as well as the relationships around the world that will make our office in São Paulo very important to our growth in the region.”

With offices in Washington, New York, Los Angeles and Mexico City, and now in São Paulo through ManattJones Marconini, ManattJones increases its on-the-ground capabilities to serve clients in a growing number of market sectors and countries. ManattJones’ expertise in IT and telecommunications, industrial technologies, energy and transportation infrastructure, manufacturing, construction, financial services, and hospitality and gaming places the firm in a strong position to bring significant value-added services to its clients throughout Latin America.

About ManattJones Global Strategies, LLC

ManattJones Global Strategies blends business and foreign service expertise to ensure achievement of client objectives – entering markets with appropriate risk assessment and analysis of market demand characteristics, navigating regulatory and trade issues, overcoming local business and political challenges, developing strategies for market penetration, finding effective local management, working effectively within the local culture, and providing high-level assistance to solve difficult problems.

ManattJones provides clients with access into, and relationships within, targeted industry and market segments in regions around the globe – banking and financial services, IT and telecommunications, biotechnology, infrastructure, housing, hospitality, manufacturing operations, and health care and pharmaceuticals - delivering on-the-ground global reach and implementation for clients.