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NEWS – For Immediate Release
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GATES AND COMPANY LAUNCHES 'PANAMERICAN BUSINESS EXPANSION' PRACTICE

WILMINGTON, DE – January 2007 – *Gates and Company* is pleased to announce the launch of a new PanAmerican Business Expansion practice under the leadership of James Locke. *Gates and Company* is leveraging the international business experience of its Principles and Associates to provide Brazilian and other South American companies entering or expanding in the United States with a range of management consulting and investment banking services. *Gates and Company* successfully launched a similar practice last year, focusing on the European Union under the leadership of Tilo Stahl.

As the largest single economy in the world, the United States is an important place for leading companies to conduct business. Brazilian and South American firms that enter the U.S., however, often fail to reach their full potential due to poor planning and incomplete understanding of U.S. business practices and culture. *Gates and Company* has developed a proven three-phase *Rapid Market Entry*TM methodology to overcome these hurdles, enabling these firms to establish operations and generate sales quickly.

Gates and Company's PanAmerican Business Expansion practice is headed by James Locke, a senior executive with over 15 years of experience working for leading multi-national firms in the consumer goods, telecommunications, consulting, and financial services industries. Prior to *Gates and Company*, Mr. Locke worked for reputable companies such as S.C. Johnson, PepsiCo, A.T. Kearney, and AIG. His successful record of accomplishments led him to expanding international responsibilities living and working in the U.S., Latin America, and Europe. Mr. Locke earned a BBA in Business Administration from Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil; and an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management. In addition to English, he is fluent in Portuguese and has a strong knowledge of Spanish and Greek.

"Most Brazilian and South American companies that achieve success in their respective countries view the U.S. market not only as a place to significantly expand sales, but also as a market for establishing credibility as a true international company," commented James Locke. He continues, "*Gates and Company*'s significant experience helping launch and grow businesses, combined with its impressive international capabilities, provides these companies with a powerful ally as they enter and/or expand in the U.S."

About Gates and Company

Gates and Company is a management consulting and investment banking firm dedicated to helping companies grow. With an impressive track record of helping numerous companies reach their goals, *Gates and Company* specializes in growth strategy formulation, investment banking, market research/analysis, business plan development, product/venture launch, routes to market, and mergers and acquisitions.

Selected clients include: Antares Pharma, DuPont, DuPont Teijin Films, FMC Corporation, The Government of Japan (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry), Friama, Greene Tweed, Hercules, JADO Technologies, LG Chemical, MedRisk, Metabo, National Biometric Security Project, Parelec, Qualicon, Rath, Rohm and Haas, Safeguard Scientifics, Silberline, Soluziona, Ultrafine Technologies, Visionet Systems, WaveFront Research, and W.L. Gore. For more information, visit www.gatesandcompany.com.

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