



MCQUEARY | HENRY | BOWLES | TROY

Media Contact: Colby Walton
(972) 580-0662 ext. 23
colby@cookseypr.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MCQUEARY HENRY BOWLES TROY LLP RANKED IN TOP 50 U.S. PRIVATELY HELD INSURANCE BROKERS BY HALES & COMPANY INC.

DALLAS – October 18, 2004 – McQueary Henry Bowles Troy, L.L.P. (MHBT), one of the largest independent commercial insurance firms in Texas, has been ranked 39th among privately held insurance brokerages in the United States by Hales & Company Inc. for 2003.

Hales & Company Inc. is an established merchant bank that specializes in providing financial solutions for middle-market companies in the insurance and financial services industries.

Hales rankings are based upon estimated gross brokerage and consulting revenues in 2003 generated by U.S. clients, and are based on results published in *Business Insurance Magazine*, the insurance industry's most widely-read trade publication. MHBT reported revenues of \$30 million in 2003, up 18 percent from 2002.

“We are proud of MHBT’s growth over the last year and this national recognition,” said Bill Henry, chairman and CEO of MHBT. “We attribute our success in 2003 to our emphasis on strong client relationships and our dedication to risk management solutions that exactly fit the needs of our clients.”

MHBT was also recently ranked 69th in *Business Insurance Magazine*’s listing of the “100 Largest Brokers of U.S. Business,” up seven spots from the previous year. This marks the fourth year in a row that the firm has been ranked in the top 100 by *Business Insurance*, the insurance

-- more --

MHBT Ranked in Top 50 U.S. Privately Held Insurance Brokerages by Hales & Company
Page Two

industry's most widely-read trade publication. MHBT was also recognized in 2004 by the *Dallas Business Journal* as one of the "Best Places to Work" in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

MHBT is based in Dallas and also has an office in Fort Worth, Texas. MHBT and its precursors have offered global insurance, bonds and financial services since 1926. The firm offers commercial risk management and insurance services, employee benefits and financial services, construction bond services, property and casualty insurance, personal insurance and surety and specialized services. For more information, please visit the firm's Web site at www.mhbt.com.

###