



Brown & Brown, Inc. Announces Asset Acquisition of Whilt, Fatch & Perry Insurance

February 17, 2003

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. and TAMPA, Fla., Feb 17, 2003 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- Kenneth D. Kirk, Regional Executive Vice President of Brown & Brown, Inc. (NYSE: BRO), and James C. Whilt, President of J.C. Whilt & Company, Insurance Services, Inc., doing business as Whilt, Fatch & Perry Insurance, of Santa Barbara California, today announced the asset acquisition of J.C. Whilt & Company, Insurance Services, Inc. by Brown & Brown, Inc. The transaction is effective February 15, 2003.

Whilt, Fatch & Perry Insurance, with annual revenues of approximately \$2.5 million, is a multi-line commercial insurance agency serving the property and casualty, employee benefits and personal insurance needs of Central California's residents and businesses. Jim Whilt and Bob Fatch, along with their staff, will soon be combining with Brown & Brown's existing Santa Barbara, California, operation, MFC&V Insurance Services.

Ken Kirk, who is responsible for Brown & Brown's operations in the Western U.S., commented, "We are quite pleased to have Jim and Bob and this fine group of insurance professionals join our family. Their addition further expands our growth opportunities and emerging presence in the California insurance market."

Brown & Brown, Inc. and its subsidiaries provide a broad range of insurance and reinsurance products and services, as well as risk management, employee benefit administration, and managed health care services through offices located across the United States. The company is ranked by Business Insurance magazine as the nation's sixth largest independent insurance intermediary organization. Our Web address is www.bbinsurance.com.

This press release may contain certain statements relating to future results which are forward-looking statements. These statements are not historical facts, but instead represent only the Company's belief regarding future events, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and outside of the Company's control. It is possible that the Company's actual results and financial condition may differ, possibly materially, from the anticipated results and financial condition indicated in these forward-looking statements. Further information concerning the Company and its business, including factors that potentially could materially affect the Company's financial results, are contained in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Some factors include: general economic conditions around the country; downward commercial property and casualty premium pressures; the competitive environment; the integration of the Company's operations with those of businesses or assets the Company has acquired or may acquire in the future and the failure to realize the expected benefits of such integration; the potential occurrence of a disaster that affects certain areas of the States of Arizona, California, Florida and/or New York, where significant portions of the Company's business are concentrated, and the actual costs of resolution of contingent liabilities, and those factors relevant to Brown & Brown's consummation and integration of the announced acquisition, including any matters analyzed in the due diligence process, material adverse changes in the customers of the company whose operations are being acquired, material adverse changes in the business and financial condition of either or both companies and their respective customers, and substantial delay in the expected closing of the transaction. All forward- looking statements included in this press release are made only as of the date of this press release, and we do not undertake any obligation to publicly update or correct any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that subsequently occur or of which we hereafter become aware.

SOURCE Brown & Brown, Inc.

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