

BUCKLE DOWN PUBLISHING **PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BUCKLE DOWN PUBLISHING RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING TEST PREP MATERIALS

Iowa City, IA—June 21, 2007 — Buckle Down Publishing, a Hights Cross Communications company, was awarded The Association of Educational Publishers' (AEP) 2007 *Distinguished Achievement Award* for three of its state-specific test preparation editions. The AEP awards recognize Buckle Down for developing the year's most outstanding materials in the field of teaching and learning curriculum.

Two Buckle Down editions were selected as winners of the Distinguished Achievement Award for Test Preparation in Reading and Language. In the grade 6-8 category, Buckle Down won the award for its *New York English Language Arts for Grade 8* edition. For grades K-5, Buckle Down's *Florida FCAT Writing for Grade 4* edition was honored. In the Mathematics category, Buckle Down was presented with the Distinguished Achievement Award in Test Preparation for its *Mississippi MCT Transition to Algebra for Grade 9* edition. A fourth edition, Buckle Down National Series Science for Grades 3-4, was honored as a finalist in the Science grades K-5 category.

"We are honored to be recognized by the AEP," said Dr. Thomas Emrick, President of Buckle Down Publishing. "For 25 years, Buckle Down has worked to create the best test preparation materials in the nation. We recognize the incredible value of our development and production teams and are privileged to have been honored as a leader—three times over—in the test preparation industry."

AEP Award winners earn the right to display the Lamp of Learning seal, nationally recognized by educators and administrators as a mark of outstanding quality and achievement. Buckle Down workbooks and practice tests are developed exclusively for classroom review in preparation for state assessments. For additional information, visit www.BuckleDown.com or call 800-776-3454 to reach Customer Service.

About Buckle Down Publishing:

Buckle Down Publishing, a division of Hights Cross Communications' Triumph Learning unit, is one of the nation's leading publishers of state-specific, test-preparation materials. Founded in 1982 and based in Iowa City, IA, Buckle Down creates supplemental student workbooks and practice tests that combine standards-based review

and test-formatted practice with regionalized content. Together, Buckle Down and Triumph Learning are the largest publisher of standards-focused materials used to prepare for the tests mandated by NCLB legislation. For more information, visit www.BuckleDown.com.

About Hights Cross Communications:

Founded in 1997 and based in White Plains, NY, Hights Cross is a leading developer and publisher of products for the kindergarten through twelfth grade, or K-12, supplemental education, library, and medical education markets. Hights Cross imprints include: Sundance/Newbridge Educational Publishing (Northborough, MA), Triumph Learning (New York, NY), Buckle Down Publishing (Iowa City, IA), Options Publishing (Merrimack, NH), Recorded Books (Prince Frederick, MD), and Oakstone Publishing (Birmingham, AL). For more information visit www.hightscross.com.

Safe Harbor Statement: This press release contains forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “would,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “potential,” and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties. These risks, uncertainties, and other factors may cause our actual results, performances, or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements. Factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from our forward-looking statements include, among others, changes in external market factors, changes in our business or growth strategy, or an inability to execute our strategy due to changes in our industry or the economy generally, the emergence of new or growing competitors and various other competitive factors. In light of these risks and uncertainties, there can be no assurance that the events and circumstances described in forward-looking statements contained in this press release will in fact occur. You should read this press release completely and with the understanding that our actual results may be materially different from what we expect. We will not update these forward-looking statements, even though our situation may change in the future. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.

