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### **Union of Two Defense Services Contracting Firms Brings Strategic Advantages**

McLean, VA, June 29, 2005 - CPI, a government contracting firm based in Fairfax, Virginia and Columbia Research Corporation (CRC) have merged to become one entity: The Columbia Group.

Both CPI and CRC provide solutions, services, and product in areas such as financial management and information technology, and security and counterterrorism. By combining forces, these two companies are strengthening their strategic position in the defense marketplace. Indeed, while both companies have been growing and providing valued services to their clients, this combination provides broader opportunities for growth, greater depth of resources to support clients, and enhanced competitive synergies with a combined skill set and competencies.

"Our common goal is to position The Columbia Group as a powerful market force in the government contracting sector, especially in the defense services community" says CPI President, Martin Arase, who will become President of the Columbia Group. "The combination of CPI and CRC to form the Columbia Group will not only enhance our competitiveness in the marketplace" added Dr. Norman Witbeck, President of CRC. "But it will also provide greater opportunity for our customers and employees." Dr. Witbeck will continue as an active advisor to and executive with the merged company.

The project management structure and assignments of both CPI and CRC will remain substantially unchanged, promising a smooth and well-run integration. The Columbia Group will be able to pursue business under the combined contracting vehicles of the two companies.

The McLean Group acted as advisor and assisted in the negotiation for CPI in this business combination with Columbia Research Corporation.

#### **About CPI, Inc.**

Computer Products, Incorporated (CPI) is a professional services firm providing services and products to a wide range of customers. CPI has a twenty one year history of providing outstanding quality to its customers and a rewarding atmosphere for its employees. Its management team is focused on nurturing an environment that fosters creative thinking among its staff to provide its customers with innovative approaches to complex problems.

#### **About Columbia Research Corporation**

Columbia Research Corporation (CRC) has been delivering professional services to Department of Defense and commercial clients for over 30 years. Headquartered just ten minutes from the Pentagon and five minutes from Capitol Hill, with field offices in Florida and Virginia, CRC employs approximately 200 engineers, logisticians, and information system specialists.

#### **About The McLean Group**

The McLean Group, LLC, is a national, middle market investment bank headquartered in McLean, VA providing merger and acquisition (M&A), capital formation, market intelligence, business valuation, litigation support and exit planning services. The firm serves domestic and international clients with a broad resume of successfully consummated financial transactions. Securities transactions are cleared through The McLean Group's affiliate, McLean Securities, LLC, a FINRA Registered Broker Dealer and Member FINRA/SIPC. For more information, visit [www.mcleanllc.com](http://www.mcleanllc.com).

If you would like more information about this transaction, please contact Katie Merchant at (703)752-9008 or e-mail Katie at [kmerchant@mcleanllc.com](mailto:kmerchant@mcleanllc.com).