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NEWS

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Alliance Benefit Group Sets New Business Mark Managing nearly \$6.5 billion in Defined Contribution plan assets

Peoria, IL (May 19, 2004) – Alliance Benefit Group (ABG), a leading provider of 401(k) recordkeeping and administration services, has reached new levels of success as the company continues to grow nationally. The company ended the 1st quarter of 2004 achieving all-time highs in daily valued plans and total plan assets under management

Presently, ABG has fifteen offices across the country with each office being privately owned and operated. To better serve clients, the company gathers data from all offices to identify successes and deficiencies in overall strategy and performance. ABG is pleased to announce the following:

DAILY VALUATION RECORDKEEPING PLANS

As of the end of the 1st quarter 2004, ABG manages nearly \$4.4 billion in assets within its daily valuation recordkeeping program for 1,758 plans – an increase of more than \$211 million since the end of the 4th quarter of 2003. Within those plans, there are 157,531 participants with an average of \$27,707 in assets per participant and \$2,482,800 per plan.

NON-RECORDKEEPING DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLANS

As of the end of the 1st quarter 2004, ABG manages more than \$2 billion in assets – an increase of nearly \$303 million from the end of 4th quarter 2003 – within its non-recordkeeping program for 2,197 plans. Within those plans, there are 82,436 participants.

DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS

As of the end of the 1st quarter 2004, ABG manages nearly \$1.1 billion in defined benefit plan assets, an increase of more than \$576 million since the end of 2003, for 363 plans across the country with a total of 35,260 participants.

“Company-sponsored retirement plans have experienced as many ups and downs as the financial markets over the past few years. The plans have been praised and scrutinized for what they offer, and not offer, in terms of financial security for participants,” said John Blossom, president of Alliance Benefit Group. “However, one thing has remained the same. Defined Contribution retirement plans are widely considered the retirement cornerstone for millions of American workers. Alliance Benefit Group is proud of the professional relationships we have established with thousands of companies across the country to ensure the financial future of their employees are secure.”

ABOUT ALLIANCE BENEFIT GROUP

Alliance Benefit Group, headquartered in Peoria, IL, has independently owned and operated offices in more than fifteen cities across the United States and provides retirement plan services for more than 3,300 plans with over \$5.9 billion under investment management. Alliance Benefit Group strives to provide employers with the “perfect plan” through knowledge and independence.

For more information on Alliance Benefit Group, please call 800-224-401K or visit www.abgnational.com.

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