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**AXINN, VELTROP & HARKRIDER LLP
EXPANDS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP**

New York City, NY (December 11, 2006) – **Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider LLP (AVH)**, a leading antitrust, intellectual property and complex litigation firm, is pleased to announce the addition of Jonathan A. Harris to the firm’s partnership. He will reside in the Hartford, Connecticut office and focus his practice on intellectual property matters. He will also be a member of the firm’s BioMedical Practice Group.

Mr. Harris possesses experience in all phases of patent law, with an emphasis in the chemical and mechanical fields. He has extensive experience before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, procuring patents on behalf of clients ranging from emerging and publicly traded companies to universities. He also has extensive litigation and counseling experience, representing clients in complex patent and trademark infringement actions and preparing due-diligence and freedom to operate opinions in anticipation of litigation.

“Jonathan’s experience across patent disciplines complements our practice areas and strengthens our capabilities in the area of intellectual property procurement,” said James Veltrop, chair of the BioMedical Practice Group. In addition, “Jonathan’s prior work with chemical formulation and medical device patents offers added depth to our expanding Biomedical Practice Group.”

Mr. Harris received his J.D. and M.B.A. degrees, *cum laude*, from the University of Connecticut in 1998, and completed his undergraduate studies at Duke University, earning a B.S. in 1994. He rejoins the firm after five years with a Chicago firm, representing clients in a variety of industries, including nanotechnology, papermaking and water treatment chemicals, cable management and distribution systems, medical devices and housewares. He is admitted to practice in state and federal courts in Connecticut and Illinois.

Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider LLP offers a wide range of legal services to clients in the fields of intellectual property and complex litigation. The firm represents clients seeking to effectively enforce intellectual property rights and to avoid and defend against charges of infringement and misappropriation. The firm has extensive counseling and litigation experience in a wide range of industries, including chemicals, tools and hardware, sporting goods, mechanical equipment and consumer products. The firm is currently representing clients in patent and trademark litigation across the country.

AV&H's BioMedical Practice Group draws upon the firm's extensive intellectual property, FDA, antitrust and complex litigation skills to provide integrated services to clients at numerous phases of the product life cycle. In particular, AV&H advises clients on patent issues raised during product development, on Hatch-Waxman exclusivity issues raised by product launch and on antitrust issues raised by patent settlements. AV&H also represents clients in litigation arising out of these issues. www.avhlaw.com