

April 3, 2006

## McMurry Reaches 100 Staff Member Mark

**Phoenix**—When Heather Burgett relocated to Phoenix from an executive slot at New York-based Scholastic Corp. to become McMurry's new vice president, client services, little did she know she would make company history the very first day on the job. Burgett's hiring pushed McMurry's staff count to an all-time high of 100.

"One hundred is something of a magical business number, where it feels like an important plateau has been reached," said McMurry President/CEO Chris McMurry. "It's a definite reason to celebrate all the incredible efforts of our team over the years, and at the same time it's important to note that we're really only at the beginning of more growth to come."

Organic and acquired growth initiatives continue to expand all aspects of McMurry, a diverse marketing communications enterprise today that started in 1984 as an in-house publishing project within a regional health care system. In 1989, the project that became known as *Vim & Vigor* magazine was sold to the McMurry family and the business began its ascent.

Today McMurry has offices in Atlanta, New York and Phoenix, serving more than 8,000 customers with staff based in seven states. Since the beginning of 2005, the company has added 25 entirely new positions, an increase of 33 percent.

"When I started working at McMurry in 1991, there were only six people on staff," said Wally Gibbs, manufacturing director. "I have witnessed the significant growth that McMurry has achieved in the past 15 years, but the one constant is the company's clear set of values."

"Probably the biggest difference is in the technology. When I started at McMurry in 1992, it was the pre-digital age and we were still doing paste-up with mechanical boards and wax. Today our company invests heavily and continually in technology. Everything is digital, and most people don't even know what a waxer looks like," added Senior Production Manager Nicole Dean.

"What's never changed is the culture. I have an awesome job and work with great people in an environment where there is freedom and no politics or big corporate red tape," said Debbie Eaton-Vaughn, director of campus operations, who joined McMurry in 1995 in a part-time finance position and has been promoted four times since.

The company recently completed its annual, anonymous staff survey and found that 83 percent of staff consider their current position at McMurry the best job of their entire career. On a scale of 1-5 (5 being high), the average level of satisfaction reached an all-time high of 4.21, and only one staff member graded their job less than a 3. The definitions for the survey rankings are: thrilled (5), pretty happy (4), satisfied (3), not that happy (2) and miserable (1).

### About McMurry

McMurry (mcmurry.com), with three offices in Arizona and New York, offers a complete line of marketing communications services to a variety of clientele, including GlaxoSmithKline, The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Co., Amtrak, CBS, Aon, CVS Caremark, Waste Management, USAA and 24 Hour Fitness, as well as resources to more than 10,000 corporate professionals. The company has specialized practices in healthcare, finance and insurance. It is among the largest independent marketing communications companies in the U.S. and is recognized by the Great Place to Work Institute and Society for Human Resource Management as one of the top five "Best Small Companies to Work For" in the U.S.

### Contact

Katie Haney, Strategic Communications Specialist

P: 602-395-5850

E: [Katie.Haney@mcmurry.com](mailto:Katie.Haney@mcmurry.com)

