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ANALYTICA GROUP AND NORTHERN TESTING LABORATORIES ANNOUNCE MERGER PLANS

David Speights, CEO of Analytica Group (AG) of Thornton, Colorado, and Michael Pollen, President and CEO of Northern Testing Laboratories, Inc. of Fairbanks, Alaska are pleased to announce that their respective environmental laboratory firms have signed a Letter of Intent to merge the two companies. Speights and Pollen describe the merger as a “wonderful integration of two very compatible firms that bring a dynamic synergy to the environmental laboratory business.” The new AG/NTL entity represents a \$7 Million annual business volume and a nationwide staff of over 60 professional environmental and business support staff.

Established in 1987, AG operates an 18,000-square foot modern environmental laboratory in Thornton, near Denver, specializing in inorganic and organic chemical waste analysis, and asbestos and lead testing services. Since 1990, Analytica Alaska, Inc. (AAI) has represented AG in Alaska with laboratories in Anchorage and Juneau. Renown for exceptional customer service and technical quality, AAI is Alaska's largest and most reputable service provider for petroleum hydrocarbon analysis, monitoring and fingerprinting. Joining the Analytica team in 1998, the AAI Juneau laboratory has a long established reputation and service base in support of public drinking water and industrial wastewater permit monitoring throughout southeast Alaska, and beyond.

NTL is Alaska's premiere statewide provider of water and wastewater testing services, having established its initial presence in Fairbanks in 1977, expanded to Anchorage in 1985, then to Prudhoe Bay in 1998. NTL currently serves the testing needs of over 500 public water systems and wastewater treatment facilities throughout Alaska, and operates the only independent environmental laboratory on the North Slope. NTL also provides water and wastewater consultation and operator training services throughout Alaska, and provides international testing services to utilities in Canada and, through an affiliate laboratory company in Buenos Aires, to the nation of Argentina.

The new combined firm will have the widest geographical presence of any laboratory in Alaska, and will have a solid presence in the Western United States through the Colorado operation. Speights and Pollen plan to expand the service base of the company, establish a strong presence in the water industry in the continental US, and aggressively expand its international presence. Speights and Pollen note, “we believe that as the global economy begins to recover, a focus on environmental and public health concerns throughout the world will present significant opportunities for a capable US environmental testing company. We intend to capitalize on that opportunity and grow the AG/NTL entity into a world-class presence, through the integration of key business management systems and our uniquely qualified professional staff.”

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