

NEWS RELEASE

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THE ALLIED GROUP ACQUIRES NEWSLETTER PRESS OF NEW ENGLAND

CRANSTON, R.I. (October 19, 2005): The Allied Group, a regional supplier of business documents, commercial and digital printing, Internet technology, and fulfillment services headquartered in Cranston, R.I., announces that it has acquired the assets of Newsletter Press of New England, Inc. of East Providence, R.I.

Established in 1976, Newsletter Press of New England is a specialty printer serving subscription newsletters publishers throughout New England, Washington, DC and Virginia. In addition to its print and mail services, Newsletter Press also printed stationery, brochures, business forms, and books for varied clientele including non-profit organizations.

The clients and resources of Newsletter Press have now become part of The Allied Group's newly formed Newsletter Division, and will operate out of Allied's Bucklin Street location in Providence. Thomas McAvoye, Jr., president of Newsletter Press, has been named director of the Newsletter Division.

This acquisition enables Allied to grow and diversify its product and service offerings -- a strategy that dates back several years to Allied's acquisition of Keyprint, a commercial printing facility in Cranston. "We are continuing to hand-pick right-sized organizations that share our business focus and vision while adding value for our customers," states Bob Clement, president and CEO of The Allied Group. "For many years, Newsletter Press built a solid reputation for producing quality newsletters. Its founder, James Marshall, was the founding member of the newsletter publishers association. We are pleased to expand Allied's newsletter production with Tom McAvoye's talent and expertise."

Newsletter Press will move several pieces of equipment to Allied's Newsletter Division including the Ryobi 3302 two-color press, a computer-to-plate system, and a Pitney Bowes addressing machine. "Allied gives us far more resources than we had on our own," states Mr. McAvoye. "We now have the ability to produce four-color newsletters and to tap into Allied's state-of-the-art mailing and Internet capabilities, not to mention their sales force. This will enable us to be a bigger player serving publishers with larger subscriber bases."

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Founded in 1946, The Allied Group, Inc., is a regional supplier of business documents, commercial and digital printing, and fulfillment services. Specific areas of "total information management" expertise include business documents, commercial printing, digital printing, promotional products, Internet technology, and fulfillment. The company is headquartered at 25 Amflex Drive in Cranston, R.I. and maintains a fulfillment center in Cumberland, R.I. and sales offices in Cranston, R.I. and Needham Heights, Mass. Headquarters phone: (800) 556-6310; fax: (401) 942-8197; Web: www.thealliedgrp.com

