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**New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson and Alkan Shelter LLC Announce
New Operations and Manufacturing Center**

Las Cruces, New Mexico - February 5, 2004 - Today New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson announced that Alaska-headquartered Alkan Shelter LLC, the composite shelter company, has selected New Mexico as the location for its primary manufacturing and assembly center. The company announced it has leased a 67,000+ square foot facility located on the New Mexico-Mexico border community of Santa Teresa. The facility will serve as the location for most of the company's panel production and assembly. It is expected that the facility will employ some 50-100 people in the next two years.

"We were impressed with the State of New Mexico and their dedicated focus to create a positive and economically sound business environment. There exist numerous attributes that were highly attractive to us, including strong transportation lines and skilled labor force, access to the national labs, the weather and a reasonable cost of living," stated Alkan CEO and founder Gerald Myers.

Designing for a Decade

Alkan has been designing, manufacturing and supplying shelters to government, military and commercial customers for over a decade. After being awarded a National Science Foundation grant to develop and produce a new shelter (All Weather Relocatable Complex or ARC) for scientific researchers at the South Pole and Antarctica, the company realized that tactical shelters and containers could be dramatically improved by applying architectural and engineering principles and utilizing composite materials. Alkan steadily progressed its knowledge in shelter design by executing these ideas.

Previous and current customers include U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Army Natick Soldier Center, U.S. Air Force, TACOM at the National Automotive Center, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Aviation Administration, Los Alamos National Laboratory, National Science Foundation and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Past commercial customers include General Communications Incorporated (GCI), Alyeska Pipeline Service Company and Golden Valley Electric Association.

Composite Materials Make the Difference

In addition to employing advanced architectural and engineering principals, Alkan has distinguished itself as a company with its emphasis on materials innovation. The company searches for and identifies new materials that improve product efficiency—rejecting the concept of modifying outdated technology. Alkan's quest for superior materials has led it to choose several high tech fiber epoxy composites for its products.

A composite is a material composed of at least two dissimilar elements that, when combined, exhibit properties different from the original elements. Composites are comprised of a bulk matrix and reinforcement to strengthen the matrix, usually fiber. Composites are particularly appropriate for shelter construction because they have advantages over traditional metal and alloy structures: high strength and stiffness with low density, superior strength-to-weight ratio, lower maintenance requirements, and greater corrosion resistance. For example, carbon's strength per unit density is two times that of aluminum and four times that of steel.

About Alkan Shelter LLC

Alkan Shelter LLC is a privately held limited liability corporation registered in the States of Alaska and New Mexico, with headquarters in Fairbanks, Alaska. It was originally formed in 1991 as Centec Mobile Systems, LLC. Conceived and created with an architect's sense of design, attention to detail and efficient use of space, the Alkan family of shelter products provide an invaluable reassurance to their customers: the comfort of knowing they have selected the highest performing shelter available in the marketplace today. First requested by the National Science Foundation for use at the South Pole and Antarctica, and then modified, tested and perfected for years in the rugged and harsh conditions of the vast Alaskan wilderness, Alkan shelters have endured the greatest test of all – surviving the many extremes that nature, man and geography can deliver. For more information visit www.alkanshelter.com

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