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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Public Relations Global Network (PRGN)
Names New President, Uwe Schmidt**

Schmidt Succeeds San Francisco-based LCI President David Landis to Drive Global PR Network Forward

SAN FRANCISCO (April 30, 2014) – [Landis Communications Inc.](#) (LCI), the San Francisco member of the [Public Relations Global Network](#) (PRGN), today announced the election of [Uwe Schmidt](#), as PRGN's new president. PRGN elected Schmidt, CEO and co-owner of Hamburg's Industrie-Contact (IC AG), last week at its bi-annual meeting in Miami. PRGN is the world's fourth largest global PR network. LCI's CEO [David Landis](#) served as the organization's immediate past president from April, 2013 until April, 2014.

Schmidt will lead the worldwide network of nearly 50 independently owned firms on six continents. Other appointments include Ed Stevens, owner of Cleveland, Ohio-based [Stevens Strategic Communications, Inc.](#) who has been named president-elect. Joe Ledlie of Atlanta-based [The Ledlie Group](#) continues as treasurer and C.L. Conroy of Miami-based [The Conroy Martinez Group](#) continues in the role of secretary.

"Leading this respected group of PR professionals has been a privilege and I'm thankful for the opportunity to help further expand PRGN's global reach," said Landis. "I look forward to working with Uwe to continue growing the organization and provide the best work possible for all of our clients."

Before joining IC AG as a trainee in 1989, Schmidt worked as a journalist for newspapers, radio stations and a news agency. After three years, he became an executive with the management team and then co-owner just four years later. Schmidt has driven the internationalization and networking of IC AG for more than a decade, lending his talents to a variety of corporations. Food & beverage, health and medicine, public affairs, professional services, technology and transportation are among his areas of expertise. His background includes international PR counsel, crisis management, financial communications, special events, website development, government relations/public affairs, search engine optimization (SEO), graphic design, publishing, marketing and direct mail marketing. Industrie-Contact has been a member of PRGN since 2002.



*David Landis,
2013-2014 president of
Public Relations Global Network*



*Uwe Schmidt,
newly-elected president of
Public Relations Global Network*

“I’m looking forward to leading PRGN. I have witnessed the good work being produced for hundreds of clients from around the world,” said Schmidt. “PRGN is dedicated to delivering the best professional services possible and I’m excited to be continually expanding our global reach to make the network as powerful and efficient as possible.”

Ed Stevens brings more than 45 years experience to his new role as president-elect of PRGN. After serving as vice chairman and president, marketing communications for Cleveland-based Dix & Eaton for nearly 30 years, Stevens launched his own communications firm in 1999. His background includes branding, inquiry management, crisis communications, investor relations, media relations and marketing communications. Stevens has significant experience in such industry sectors as manufacturing, food/food service, safety, healthcare, chemicals, banking, professional services, distribution, utilities and building/construction.



“As a PRGN co-founder, I’m humbled by the opportunity to lead and work with the best public relations minds across the globe,” said Stevens. “Through membership, we grow in our understanding of each other, the PR industry and the local worlds in which we live. For our clients, we offer the power of a global network that produces results through collaborative, collegial and creative campaigns targeted at the local communities we serve.”

Landis Communications Inc. is the local PRGN partner in San Francisco and has been a member since 2005.

ABOUT LANDIS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. (LCI)

Winner of two national Bulldog Awards and called “the Bay Area’s communications experts,” Landis Communications Inc. (LCI) provides strategic communications, digital, integrated marketing, social media, media training, video production and overall public relations services and counsel to help businesses grow and stand out. Celebrating nearly 25 years, LCI is based in San Francisco and represents leading national consumer, technology and business-to-business clients. With its trademarked Promised Results© program, LCI delivers the right results that promote clients’ success to achieve their goals. This year, TopPRAgencies.com named LCI the 3rd best social media agency in the country. In 2013, LCI launched Giant Step Digital, a national digital marketing brand in partnership with The Castle Group in Boston. LCI is the San Francisco member agency of Public Relations Global Network (PRGN), with nearly 50 offices worldwide. Follow LCI on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Pinterest and Google Plus. For further information about LCI, please visit: www.landispr.com.

ABOUT PUBLIC RELATIONS GLOBAL NETWORK

Clients across six continents depend on the combined resources of the Public Relations Global Network (PRGN) to deliver targeted public relations campaigns in markets around the world. With revenues of more than \$110 million (U.S.D.), PRGN is among the world’s top four international public relations networks. PRGN harnesses the resources of nearly 50 independent public relations firms and more than 900 communications professionals to connect international companies and organizations with individual and culturally diverse markets globally. Visit PRGN online at www.prgn.com.

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