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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Merchants Leasing Hires Steven J. Barton as Regional Sales Manager**

**November 15, 2006, Manchester, NH**—Merchants Leasing has further expanded its national sales force by hiring Steven J. Barton as Regional Sales Manager. Barton will be based in Portland, OR, and be responsible for the Pacific Northwest area spanning Washington, Oregon, the Northern tip of California to San Francisco and east to Boise, Idaho. Barton has extensive fleet leasing experience, and was previously a Senior Account Manager for Glesby Marks Leasing. Prior to that he was Vice President Western Region for LeasePlan and Regional Account Manager for GE Capital.

*About Merchants Leasing*

Merchants Leasing is a national fleet management company that offers customers a total fleet solution which includes its unique *No Risk* closed-end lease option. Other services include professional insurance and maintenance programs, fuel cards to manage mileage and gasoline expenses, local and nationwide delivery, and expert fleet management and administration services. Merchants leases a variety of vehicles including cars, trucks and vans, law enforcement vehicles, handicap-equipped vehicles and more. Merchants Leasing is part of Merchants Automotive Group and a Singer Family Company which includes Merchants Original Auto Superstore, Merchants Nissan in Concord, NH, as well as Merchants Service and CARQUEST Parts. For more information about Merchants Leasing, visit the company's website at [www.merchantsleasing.com](http://www.merchantsleasing.com).

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