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**Hunt Private Equity Group Announces the
Acquisition of Universal Companies, Inc.**

Charlotte, NC – Hunt Private Equity Group, Inc., in conjunction with management, has completed the acquisition of Universal Companies, Inc. Headquartered in Abingdon, VA, Universal is a leading distributor of spa and skin care products. The Company is the leading single source supplier to the highly fragmented spa industry through its proprietary catalog of over 5,000 items. Universal serves four distinct channels: Day Spas, Resort Hotel & Destination Spas, Industry Schools and Medical Spas.

Former majority owner and current Chairman and CEO, Marti Morenings, who has led Universal since 1982, along with President and Chief Operating Officer, Gary McConnell will continue their ongoing leadership of the Company.

“Over the last decade, Universal’s strengths in innovation and customer service have enabled the Company to post consistent revenue and cash flow growth,” said Marti Morenings. “These strengths have enabled the Company to create strong relationships with a broad base of leading spas across multiple channels. My team and I are excited about our partnership with Hunt Private Equity Group as Hunt shares Universal’s core values and is experienced in working with family owned businesses. Hunt’s consumer investment experience and capital will enable Universal to continue our dramatic growth.”

“Universal aligns well with our investment strategy of partnering with management to invest in industry-leading, consumer-oriented businesses,” said Matt Malone, Managing Director of Hunt Private Equity Group and head of Hunt’s Charlotte, North Carolina office. “Universal’s strong management team, industry knowledge and deep channel relationships provide the Company a strong platform for future growth. Furthermore, Universal fits well with Hunt’s experience in partnering with existing management to invest in family owned businesses with a goal of continued and accelerated growth.”

Additionally, while management expects most of the future growth to be organic, the company is actively seeking complementary company and product acquisitions in the spa and skin care space.

About Universal Companies, Inc.

Universal Companies, Inc. occupies a unique position in the spa and skin care industry. The Company was established when Marti launched a small company with a limited line of products and equipment. Universal has emerged as a recognized industry leader with a clearly defined image, strong brand recognition and offers a comprehensive range of spa products and equipment. Universal is a platform entity with which carefully selected companies can align with or be acquired to capture market share in a fragmented, but burgeoning, industry.

About Hunt Private Equity Group, Inc.

Hunt Private Equity Group is an affiliate of Hunt Investment Corporation, a private equity business associated with the Ray L. Hunt family of Dallas, Texas. The firm invests equity capital in middle-market, consumer-oriented companies with a proven business model seeking a value-added financial partner to support their continued growth or to finance a buyout or recapitalization. Additional information on Hunt Private Equity Group is available at <http://www.huntpeg.com>.