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PLANTAGENET CAPITAL NAMES GEOFFROY SURBLED AS MANAGING DIRECTOR IN ITS FRENCH OFFICE

Focus on European Buyouts

San Francisco, September 23, 1999 – Plantagenet Capital Management LLC today announced that it has named Geoffroy Surbled, 46, to the position of Managing Director in the firm’s Paris office, where he will be involved in sourcing European deal flow opportunities and managing Plantagenet’s portfolio companies.

Mr. Surbled comes to Plantagenet, which specializes in buyouts, financial restructurings and industry consolidations in the U.S. and in Europe, with broad expertise in European financial markets and corporate finance, focusing on mergers, acquisitions and company valuation.

C. Derek Anderson, Senior Managing Partner of Plantagenet, said, “For more than 17 years, Geoffroy Surbled has been advising European companies – from large multinationals to small family-owned firms – on the benefits of growth by acquisition and consolidation. He comes to Plantagenet well prepared to take advantage of the increased cross-border acquisition and buyout activity within Europe.”

Before joining Plantagenet, Mr. Surbled was a Partner with Translink, an international corporate finance advisory firm with offices in seven European countries and the U.S. At Translink, Mr. Surbled focused on cross-border transactions of \$10 to \$100 million involving small to medium companies. He also advised corporate clients on multinational transactions in the agribusiness, distribution and engineering industries. He was the exclusive advisor to the German food distributor Spar in its sale to Intermarche of France in a transaction worth more than \$1 billion.

From 1989 to 1996, Mr. Surbled was Chairman and CEO of Financiere des Glenan, an M&A advisory firm in western France that specializes in mergers, buyouts, and financial engineering for medium-sized companies. As founder and lead broker, Mr. Surbled was closely involved in

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all phases of the business transaction, including sourcing, valuation, negotiation, legal and financial due diligence, and strategic planning. He developed special expertise in leveraged management buyouts and led a number of these transactions for clients in a variety of industries.

Earlier, Mr. Surbled worked in M&A and corporate finance for Credit Commercial de France (CCF), becoming Managing Director of the CCF-Interfinanz joint venture in Germany, where he managed cross-border M&A activity.

Mr. Surbled lectures on corporate finance for schools including the French business school ESSEC. He holds a Masters in Business Administration from New York University and a degree from the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce in Rouen, France. Mr. Surbled is a licensed financial analyst with the Societe Francaise des Analystes Financiers.

Plantagenet Capital Management LLC is a San Francisco-based private equity firm with satellite offices in Paris, France and Houston, Texas. Plantagenet specializes in strategic buyouts and turnaround situations and currently has investments in both the United States and Europe.

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