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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Specialty Underwriters, Inc. Hires New Chief Operating Officer

BELLEVUE, Washington – (November 5, 2002) National Specialty Underwriters, Inc., a leader in the hospitality and medical professional liability insurance industry, today announced the addition of Gary Purdom to their management staff as Chief Operating Officer.

Purdom comes to NSU with a strong background managing insurance-related operations. Over the last ten years, he held the position of Regional Vice President for specialty insurance carriers in the Northwest, and his career in the insurance and brokerage community on the West Coast spans 25 years.

“We are very pleased to bring someone like Gary into our organization,” said NSU’s CEO, Chris Randall. “Gary brings the vital combination of leadership skills and market experience that we need to continue our tradition of excellence in the industry.”

“I am very excited about the opportunity to join NSU,” Purdom said. “NSU has an impressive track record of growth, profitability, and customer relations. I think we’re well on our way to our goal of being the single best program administrator in the United States.”

About National Specialty Underwriters

NSU is a program administrator for niche market insurance. NSU programs are distributed through hundreds of retail agents and brokers nationally. To better serve our agency force, NSU has developed specialized purchasing groups. For more information on NSU, see our website at www.nsui.com or call (425) 450-1090.