



**PERSONNEL  
DECISIONS**  
INTERNATIONAL

REAL LEADERSHIP ADVANTAGE™

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ASTAIRE PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT INKS DEAL WITH  
PERSONNEL DECISIONS INTERNATIONAL**  
*Firm Becomes Wholly-Owned Subsidiary of PDI*

**MILAN (January 9, 2006)** – Astaire People Development today announced it had completed an agreement to be purchased by long-time strategic partner Personnel Decisions International (PDI). Based in Minneapolis, Minnesota with offices across globe, PDI is a recognized global leader in the field of talent management for leadership advantage.

“We’re very excited to announce this development,” said Astaire partner and co-founder Massimo Meroni. “We’ve worked as strategic partners with PDI since the founding of our firm, and this transaction is the logical next step in a long and successful relationship. PDI has an international reputation for offering real expertise depth in helping clients gain a leadership advantage over their competition, and we’re delighted to officially join PDI.” Meroni becomes managing director of the new PDI Italy.

The establishment of a PDI office in Milan is part of the company’s efforts to best serve its customers across the globe. “We believe that we can best serve our clients when we are with them in the communities they call home,” said Klaus Schuler, PDI vice president and managing director, Europe. “Our multi-national footprint, facilitated via deep local expertise, allows us to do this in an effective manner.”

Cynthia Marsh, president and chief operating officer of PDI, cites the Milan transaction as the latest in a series of strategic acquisitions aimed at offering PDI customers an advantage over the competition. “PDI offers its customers much more than traditional HR consulting coupled with the latest fads,” Marsh commented. “PDI-trained consultants bring the unique consistency of applied behavioral science rigor and insight in meeting business needs for identifying, developing, and deploying leaders across the world. We’ve had the privilege to work with Mr. Meroni and his colleagues at Astaire for several years now, and they’re highly regarded throughout the PDI network. We’re proud to be able to welcome them to the global PDI team.”

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**About PDI (Personnel Decisions International)**

Personnel Decisions International (PDI) is a global human resources consulting firm with distinctive expertise in building leadership talent that provides real competitive advantage. With over 600 team members in 28 offices around the globe, we partner with the world’s leading organizations, enabling them to make consistently effective decisions about leaders.

Using field-tested strategies, systems, and tools that are unique in the industry — we help clients identify, develop, and deploy superior leaders. Our aim is simple — the well placed confidence that your current and future leaders are distinctively stronger than the competition, resulting in sustained, superior performance.

For more information, contact PDI client relations in the U.S. at 920.997.6995 or visit PDI’s Web site at [www.personneldecisions.com](http://www.personneldecisions.com).

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[www.personneldecisions.com](http://www.personneldecisions.com)