



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Roberto Cortese Joins Travelers Financial Group as Head of Equipment Leasing Operation

Vancouver, BC – January 30, 2006 - Travelers Financial Group is pleased to announce that veteran equipment leasing industry executive, Mr. Roberto Cortese, will lead its equipment leasing member company as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Travelers Financial Corporation.

In this newly created position Mr. Cortese reports directly to Chief Executive Officer, Jim Case. Roberto Cortese has taken on responsibility for all operational, strategic, marketing and tactical programs for the asset-based equipment leasing business of Travelers Financial Corporation.



“We are indeed fortunate to have secured Roberto Cortese’s talent and experience to lead our equipment leasing operation to its continued growth and success”, said Travelers CEO, Jim Case. “Roberto is a highly regarded industry leader and we are so very pleased to have him on the Travelers leadership team.”

Roberto Cortese responded, “My decision to take on this exciting role at Travelers was a function of the common beliefs and values I share with the management team of Travelers on how to build and operate a successful commercial finance business. Travelers Financial is an industry leader and with its strong foundation and team already in place, we are poised to significantly expand our position in the market.”

Roberto Cortese is well known in the leasing sector having held a number of senior management positions in the industry, most recently since 1999 as Vice President and General Manager for Sales, Marketing and Asset Management for De Lage Landen Financial Services Canada, a subsidiary of Rabobank based in Toronto, where he was responsible for the Commercial activities and the formulation of direct market business development and branding strategies for De Lage Landen Globally and Regionally. Prior to this, Mr. Cortese was Western Canada Regional Manager, based in Vancouver, for Copelco Capital, and prior to this as Regional Sales Manager with Newcourt Financial formerly Commcorp. Mr. Cortese has also held various other management positions within Norex Leasing, Commcorp and Newcourt.

Mr. Cortese holds a Master of Business Administration from Tulane University – Freeman School of Business, and Marketing Degree from the University of British Columbia. He has, with his family, recently relocated to Vancouver.

Travelers Financial Corporation is a member of the Travelers Financial Group of companies and has over 30 years experience in the equipment lease and finance industry. Travelers specializes in customized financing packages and terms to meet the needs of its Vendor Partners, and the diverse needs of their clients. Our nationwide equipment leasing programs are fully supported with sales team training, tracking reports and personalized vendor-concentric service. Travelers is a charter member of the Canadian Finance and Leasing Association.