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## **Schlager Group Launches New Imprint**

*Milestone Documents Series will align history reference with the classroom*

September 17, 2007 (Dallas)—Schlager Group, an editorial services company that provides a behind-the-scenes competitive advantage for some of the biggest names in reference publishing, is launching its own multiformat reference imprint with a new series that promises an innovative take on primary source documents. Sought after for its ability to create content that resonates with librarians and patrons, the organization will debut its Milestone Documents series in spring 2008 with *Milestone Documents in American History*. The four-volume set, which explores the nation's most important documents and analyzes their historical impact, is one of the first reference works to place primary sources in the starring role.

"Milestone Documents moves primary sources closer to the way they're used in today's classrooms," said Neil Schlager, president of Schlager Group. "Primary sources have an increasing presence at the heart of history education at both the high school and college levels, but they are often treated in reference literature with sideline interest or as ready reference. We're turning that model on its head by combining full-text primary documents with expert analysis, creating a format that boosts students' understanding and makes their study time more productive."

*Milestone Documents in American History* combines primary source material with extensive analysis by acclaimed historians and, in the process, gives students a new option for using these sources to understand history. For example, students will find the full text of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Pearl Harbor speech along with a detailed overview by the historian Carl Rollyson (Baruch College, City University of New York) that explores the key facets of the speech, including its historical context, intended audience, and essential quotes. Further, Dr. Rollyson offers a paragraph-by-paragraph analysis of the text, providing students with the immediacy and emotion of 1941. Additional elements, such as study questions, a timeline, glossary terms, and photographs and illustrations, round out this lively and informative examination of Roosevelt's historic speech.

While the content in *Milestone Documents in American History* sets the stage for the unique approach Schlager Group will bring to reference publishing, the cast behind the

works shows its talent for connecting students, teachers, and librarians with big thinkers and great writers. Paul Finkelman, an esteemed legal historian and the President William McKinley Distinguished Professor of Law and Public Policy at Albany Law School, will serve as executive editor. Finkelman, in turn, has gathered a team of more than 75 historians and scholars to write for the set. Among them are Lewis Gould (University of Texas at Austin), author of *Grand Old Party: A History of the Republicans*; John P. Kaminski (University of Wisconsin—Madison), founder and director of the Center for the Study of the American Constitution; and Donna DeBlasio, director of the Center for Historic Preservation at Youngstown State University.

To ensure continuous alignment with the classroom, the entire publishing program is being designed with assistance of Consulting Editor Bruce Lesh, vice-chair of the board of trustees of the National Council for History Education, and an advisory board of historians, history teachers, and librarians. *Milestone Documents in American History*, for example, provides eight detailed and useful teacher's guides containing dozens of student activities, all aligned with National History Standards.

*Milestone Documents in American History* will be published in a four-volume print set, along with digital components, in April 2008. A companion set—*Milestone Documents of American Leaders*—will follow in 2009, and subsequent titles will extend the series into world history. All titles in the series will be suitable for high school and lower undergraduate college students. For more information, visit Schlager Group at [www.schlagergroup.com](http://www.schlagergroup.com).

### ***About Schlager Group***

Founded in 1997, Schlager Group has been the driving editorial force behind dozens of award-winning works from the publishing industry's leading reference publishers. The company's editorial services are renowned for the creation of trustworthy, highly useful content that's supported by professional fact-checking and editing.

Among Schlager Group's editorial projects are a variety of large-scale, multivolume works, often requiring hundreds of writers, content experts, and editors. These works include the seven-volume *Science and Its Times: Understanding the Social Significance of Scientific Discovery* (Gale, 2000–01), *Scribner Encyclopedia of American Lives* (Charles Scribner's Sons, 2000–07), *Crusades Reference Library* (UXL, 2005), and *World Encyclopedia of Political Systems and Parties* (Facts On File, 2006).

In 2007, Schlager Group launched its own independent publishing imprint. Its first title, *Milestone Documents in American History*, will be published in April 2008. It will be followed in 2009 by a companion set, *Milestone Documents of American Leaders*.