



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **BOOTS & COOTS ACQUIRES JOHN WRIGHT COMPANY**

**HOUSTON**, February 12, 2009 — Boots & Coots International Well Control, Inc. (NYSE: WEL), announced today that it has purchased John Wright Company (JWC) for approximately \$10 million in a combination of cash and subordinated debt. Based in Houston, JWC provides a suite of relief well drilling and risk management services to the oil and gas industry worldwide. Boots & Coots will integrate the company's proprietary technology into its Safeguard program, which is currently its fastest growing segment.

"I developed a deep respect for John's skills and the talent of his employees that dates back to the 80s when we first worked together in the North Sea," said Jerry Winchester, president and chief executive officer. "This is a strategic investment in that the technology and experience we're acquiring will enhance our Safeguard service offerings, endorse our leadership position in risk management and give us a competitive edge for growth."

John Wright, president and founder of JWC, has accepted the position of senior vice president of technology for Boots & Coots. Technology acquired includes proprietary processes, software and expertise designed to assist operators, drilling contractors, and integrated service companies to define and manage their well control risks in a systematic way. JWC has defined management criteria which together make up an integrated 'Well Control Management System.'

"Technology keeps advancing in this industry, and the companies that can stay ahead of the learning curve will be the market leaders," commented Wright. "We believe our combined assets will keep Boots & Coots on the leading edge when it comes to designing risk management products."

### **About Boots & Coots**

Boots & Coots International Well Control, Inc., Houston, Texas, provides a suite of integrated pressure control services to onshore and offshore oil and gas exploration companies around the world. The Well Intervention segment consists of services that are designed to enhance production for oil and gas operators and reduce the number and severity of critical well events such as well fires, blowouts or other losses of control at the well. This segment includes services performed by hydraulic workover and snubbing units and the rental of pressure control tools that are used to enhance production at the wells. The scope of these services also includes prevention services such as training, contingency planning, well plan reviews, audits, inspection services and engineering services offered through our Safeguard risk management programs. The Response segment consists of personnel, equipment and services provided during an emergency response such as a critical well event or a hazardous material response. More information can be found on the Company's website at [www.boots-coots.com](http://www.boots-coots.com).

**About John Wright Company**

John Wright Company, Houston, Texas, is a highly specialized consulting engineering firm devoted to the management of well blowout hazards, relief wells and well intersections with global project experience. The Company is comprised of an integrated team of specialists working to assist operators to manage complex well control and blowout related hazards. Through its affiliate company, add wellflow a/s, the Company provides fully transient 3-phase hydraulic software and related engineering services for well control, blowout, kill and associated hydraulic modeling. More information can be found on the Company's website at [www.jwco.com](http://www.jwco.com).

*Certain statements included in this news release are intended as "forward-looking statements" under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Boots & Coots cautions that actual future results may vary materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements. More information about the risks and uncertainties relating to these forward-looking statements is found in Boots & Coots' SEC filings, which are available free of charge on the SEC's web site at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).*

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