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**PRESS RELEASE**

**OPTIMUM GROUP ANNOUNCES EXCELLENT RESULTS FOR 2008**

**Montreal, April 28, 2009** – Today, during its annual shareholders' meeting, Optimum Group Inc., which celebrates the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation in 2009, announced highly satisfactory results for its financial year 2008, as well as its upcoming challenges and outlook for the following year.

«Each member company of the group shows an increase in its business revenues, a clear indication of Optimum's health across all of its business sectors» stated Mr. Jean-Claude Pagé, President and Chief Operating Officer. The group's assets reached the \$1 Billion mark, and its capital exceeded 10% of its assets. The return on capital in 2008 was 15.4%, while the average return for the last five years was 15.7%.

2008 was a remarkable year for Optimum Group, despite the worldwide turmoil that agitated financial markets. «This accomplishment is evidence that our corporate values, particularly rigorousness and risk management, combined with our team's involvement and innovative attitude are solid foundations even during turbulent periods» added Mr. Pagé.

**About Optimum Group Inc.**

Optimum Group is a private international financial group active in life insurance, property and casualty insurance, life reinsurance, actuarial consulting and asset management. Optimum Group operates mainly in Canada, the US and France. More than 500 employees contribute to its success worldwide. This year, Optimum Group celebrates the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation.

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**Solid foundations, the promise of a prosperous future**

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