

Alan E. Lewis
Chairman and CEO, Grand Circle Corporation

For the past 20 years, Alan Lewis's vision has transformed Grand Circle Corporation from a \$23-million-a-year travel company into a \$700- million-a-year, fast-moving, global enterprise serving American travelers over 50.

Alan and his wife, Harriet, purchased Grand Circle Travel in 1985 with a vision to "help change people's lives." To do so, they established a unique, values-based corporate culture to foster personal and professional growth for associates, culturally rich international vacations for customers, and, in 1992, to benefit the communities where Grand Circle works and travels, the Grand Circle Foundation, a comprehensive philanthropic program that today is critical to the company's success and profitability.

Under Lewis' leadership, Grand Circle has expanded from one office in Boston in 1997 to 45 offices with 3,000 employees on six continents today. Brands include Grand Circle Travel, Overseas Adventure Travel, and a fleet of 45 small ships that, in the past two years, have been cited by *Conde Nast Traveler* as among the best in the world.

A strong believer in experiential learning, Lewis established Grand Circle's Pinnacle Leadership Center in Kensington, New Hampshire, in 1992. The center hosts Grand Circle's annual outdoor retreat, during which associates engage in a series of hands-on, Outward Bound-style challenge activities. This retreat, as well as several year-round employee development programs, promotes the values that Lewis has instituted to guide the company's business practice: open and courageous communications, risk taking, teamwork, speed, quality, and thriving in change.