

Contacts:

Kristy Scrymgeour High Road Sports, Inc. (805) 545.7942 <u>kscrymgeour@highroadsports.com</u>

Regina Cirmon Columbia Sportswear PR for Europe +41 22 870 9061 rcirmon@columbia.com

John Fread Columbia Sportswear PR (503) 985.4287 jfread@columbia.com

Columbia Sportswear Company and High Road Sports Announce New "Team Columbia" to Debut at 2008 Tour de France

Team High Road Will Ride in the 2008 Tour de France as "Team Columbia" Under New Sponsorship Agreement Supporting Columbia Sportswear Company's Outdoor Brand Leadership

GENEVA, Switzerland and SAN LUIS OBISPO, California – June 16, 2008 – Columbia Sportswear Company (Nasdaq: COLM), a global leader in the active outdoor apparel and footwear industries, and California-based High Road Sports, Inc., the owner of Team High Road, today announced a new team sponsorship agreement that prominently places the Columbia brand at the starting line of the 2008 Tour de France on July 5.

Team High Road, one of professional cycling's most successful young teams with star riders such as George Hincapie, Kim Kirchen and Mark Cavendish, will compete as "Team Columbia" for the remainder of the 2008 season and will unveil its new uniforms in Brest, France on July 3, two days before the start of Europe's largest sporting event, the 95th Tour de France. In Europe and around the world, the Tour de France international cycling event is considered comparable to the United States' Super Bowl in terms of popularity among fans and media exposure.

"Columbia Sportswear Company's sponsorship of Team Columbia provides an ideal opportunity to elevate the positioning of Columbia in multiple European markets by communicating our authentic,

outdoor, active, American brand to our target demographic," said Tim Boyle, president and chief executive officer of Columbia Sportswear Company. "By sponsoring one of the top men's and women's cycling teams in the world, we leverage the international popularity and broad media reach of the cycling sport among enthusiast and recreational audiences, promote Columbia's outdoor brand leadership in Europe and the U.S., and support our seasonal product initiatives, such as Omni-Shade™ apparel and accessories for sun protection."

The three-year sponsorship agreement runs through 2010 and includes both the men's and women's professional cycling teams, which are top ranked worldwide and have won over 70 races combined in 2008 – the most wins of any competing team. In addition, at least 15 riders from Team Columbia are expected to represent their countries in the upcoming Olympics.

"This is a partnership with great potential," says High Road Owner Bob Stapleton. "Columbia is a market leader with innovative products, progressive management, and ambitious marketing objectives. We welcome Columbia Sportswear as a key partner for the next several years," Stapleton added.

About Columbia Sportswear Company:

Founded in 1938 in Portland, Oregon, Columbia Sportswear Company is a global leader in the design, sourcing, marketing and distribution of active outdoor apparel and footwear. As one of the largest outerwear manufacturers in the world and a leading seller of skiwear in the United States, the company has developed an international reputation for quality, performance, functionality and value. The company manages a portfolio of outdoor brands including Columbia Sportswear, Montrail, Mountain Hardwear, Pacific Trail, and Sorel. To learn more about Columbia, please visit the company's website at http://www.columbia.com/.

About High Road Sports:

High Road Sports, Inc., based in San Luis Obispo, California, operates the only USA owned and registered ProTour Elite-level professional men's cycling team and the world's number one ranked women's cycling team. High Road's athletes include 42 men and women from 17 different nations making it the most international team in the sport. High Road was founded on the principles of clean and fair sport, and is the winningest team in pro cycling during the 2008 season. High Road focuses on developing young talent in the sport under excellent veteran leadership and an experienced management team deeply committed to the sport of professional cycling. To learn more about Team Columbia please visit the team's web site at www.highroadsports.com .