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**Cook Associates Places Multiple Executives
at American Express Company**

CHICAGO, August 15, 2007 – The Executive Search division of Cook Associates, Inc. announced the completion of multiple assignments for the American Express Company. These include: (1) Vice President, Content Development & Community, Alyson Meranze, who formerly served as a marketing consultant to consumer giant SONY and private equity firm Platinum Equity; (2) Director, Proprietary Marketing, Malaika Dowdell, who was most recently Brand Manager, Sprite for The Coca-Cola Company; and (3) Senior Manager, Marketing, Carmelita Chavez, from The Dannon Company where she served as Brand Manager over the Light & Fit product line.

Mary Kier, Diversity Practice Leader and Vice Chairman of Cook Associates, Inc., along with Jennifer Kerensky, Director, conducted the assignments.

About Cook Associates

Cook Associates' core business is creating value where talent and opportunity connect. We provide both retained executive search and M&A advisory services that streamline that connection. Our client base ranges from multinational corporations to early stage entrepreneurial companies, private equity and venture capital firms. Brand name clients include American Express, The Blackstone Group, Dover Corporation, GTCR, Heinz, Juniper Networks, Levi Strauss & Co., Pitney Bowes, and Sirius Satellite Radio. For additional information, please visit www.cookassociates.com.