



For more information, contact:

Bob Conrad, 703-245-8046, bconrad@cmgresults.com

## NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### ***Accounting Today* Names IMA President and CEO Paul Sharman as One of Their 2005 Top 100 Most Influential People**

**Montvale, N.J., November 2005** – The Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) today announced that President and CEO Paul A. Sharman was recently named as one of *Accounting Today's* Top 100 Most Influential People for 2005. The Special Supplement to *Accounting Today* was released in October 2005.

Paul A. Sharman was named IMA President and CEO in March 2005 after serving as the interim executive director since January 2004, and has worked to re-establish management accounting's natural role within business and society, promoting the uniqueness and importance of management accounting and exploring new horizons for IMA through professional partnerships and research.

"It is a privilege to be in this distinguished company. I am humbled by this recognition," said Sharman. "This honor reflects all of the hard work of my colleagues at the Institute of Management Accountants and IMA's volunteer leadership. I will continue to be committed to building and enhancing the profession of management accounting worldwide."

*The Accounting Today* Top 100 Most Influential People each year strives to recognize those persons who have had the most affect on the accounting industry in the past calendar year. This marks Paul's first time he has been listed by *Accounting Today*.

Before joining IMA as the interim executive director, Sharman was a leading independent cost and performance management consultant for 17 years, serving many organizations including AT&T, Citibank, DuPont, Hewlett-Packard and the U.S. Army. Sharman also previously worked as a controller for a number of Northern Telecom (Nortel) units.

Sharman has made great strides in establishing a new direction for IMA as an organization and in furthering the management accounting profession. Major accomplishments to date during Sharman's tenure include IMA's investment in a major market research initiative and a credentialing evaluation that examined 13 different areas of the Certified Management Accountant (CMA) and Certified Financial Manager (CFM) credentials. This study concluded that the CMA and CFM programs are among the best business credentials in the marketplace for incorporating fundamental management concepts with cutting-edge industry practices and superior ethical standards. Further, Sharman has driven IMA's professional research efforts to focus on developing standards, best practices and tools for the decision support and planning and control functions of the management accounting and finance profession. Planned research includes projects on new cost management techniques, technologies to improve information flow and business reporting and holistic performance management.

An additional effort initiated by Sharman has been to substantially redesign IMA's governance by adopting four board standing committees that will enable IMA's board of directors to become highly focused. These committees, including governance, planning and development, performance oversight and external/member relations will better position IMA to be more effective in advancing the management accounting and financial management profession.

*more-*

Sharman earned his Certified Management Accountant (CMA) from the British Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). A respected speaker and author, a number of his articles have received awards for Distinguished Contribution to Management Accounting from the International Federation of Accountants' (IFAC) Financial and Management Committee. Sharman also serves as a member of the editorial advisory boards for the *Journal of Strategic Performance Measurement* and the *Journal of Cost Management*.

**About The Institute of Management Accountants (IMA)**

With a worldwide network of nearly 70,000 professionals, IMA is the world's leading organization dedicated to empowering management accounting and finance professionals to drive business performance. IMA provides a dynamic forum for management accounting and financial professionals to develop and advance their careers through certification, research, practice development education, networking and the advocacy of the highest ethical and professional practices. For more information about IMA, visit [www.imanet.org](http://www.imanet.org).

For more on Paul Sharman and his plans for IMA and the management accounting profession, visit [www.imanet.org/ima/view.asp?CID=1419&DID=2919](http://www.imanet.org/ima/view.asp?CID=1419&DID=2919).

To schedule an interview with Paul Sharman, please contact Bob Conrad at 703-245-8046 or at [bconrad@cmgresults.com](mailto:bconrad@cmgresults.com)

###