

VIKING SYSTEMS CEO DONALD E. TUCKER ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

SAN DIEGO— August 17, 2006 — Viking Systems, Inc. (OTCBB: VKSY) and its Board of Directors has elected the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer, Donald E. Tucker, to the additional role of Chairman.

"It is a very exciting time for Viking Systems as we continue to build out our business model and our surgical technology service offerings. The business will remain focused on penetrating the rapidly growing minimally invasive surgical space with innovative surgical solutions, lead by our EndoSite 3Di Digital Vision System device," said Mr. Tucker. "As Chairman, I look forward to working more closely with our already experienced and highly accomplished Board members in order to ensure Viking's success and maximize value for our shareholders."

In addition to the election of Mr. Tucker as Chairman, Viking's Board of Directors announced that Daniel F. Crowley will remain on the Board as a Director and Chairman of the Audit Committee.

About Viking Systems, Inc.

Viking Systems, Inc. is a designer, manufacturer and marketer of FDA-cleared, CE-marked, high-performance laparoscopic vision systems. The Company's primary branded product is the EndoSite 3Di Digital Vision System, an advanced three-dimensional (3-D) vision system used by surgeons for complex minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery, with an initial focus on applications in urology, gynecology, bariatrics and general surgery. Viking also manufactures advanced two-dimensional (2-D) EndoSite 2Di Digital Vision Systems for targeted configurations and channels, as well as 2-D cameras and components, sold through strategic partner and OEM programs.

Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: This press release includes forward-looking statements including, but not limited to, our ability to execute on our business plan during 2006 and beyond, our strategic planning and business development plans, our future financing needs, impacts on our financial results, and our future growth. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. These risks include, but are not limited to, our ability to market our products, the success of business development efforts, competition in the industry, and our ability to manage growth, as well as the risks and other factors set forth in our periodic filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (including our Form 10-KSB for the year ended December 31, 2005 and our Form 10-QSB for the quarter ended March 31, 2006.)

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