



MEDIA RELEASE

Vanco Challenge Set to Raise 1.2 Million Pounds for Charity 2006 Adventure Challenge in July Aims to Continue Success Story

LONDON, 28th April 2006 – Every year Vanco, the global Virtual Network Operator (VNO), and humanitarian organisation CARE International encourage the UK IT industry to push their personal boundaries in the search for a spectacular team-building event. The 2006 Vanco Adventure Challenge will include two days of hiking, biking and canoeing round the Lake District 15 and 16 July. The Vanco sponsored Challenge has been a tremendous success so far and this year's event is geared up to surpass the total of an outstanding 1.2 million.

Each team of four people will be challenged with sporting activities, but must also raise a minimum of £5,000 for CARE International's overseas project work. The Adventure Challenge is sponsored by Vanco, which means that all funds raised can go to CARE's overseas development work. Last year alone the event raised £130,000.

"Besides the tremendous help we get after a disaster in different parts of the world it's equally important to receive ongoing commitment from organisations like Vanco," says Mike Bartlett, Head of Challenge Events at CARE. "Over the years the teams involved have raised a significant contribution to support our much-needed work. With the 2006 Adventure Challenge in July we hope to continue the success."

The charity organisation tackles the deep-seated causes of poverty in order to create lasting changes – from safe drinking water systems in Tanzania to girl's education projects in India – as well as responding in times of emergency. This includes the Eastern Africa region affected by the ongoing food and water crisis, particularly Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya, where CARE has decades of experience running development programmes. Similarly, post-tsunami, CARE has been able to respond swiftly to the rehabilitation of communities in South-East Asia, including housing and health care.

Allen Timpany, Managing Director of Vanco, explains: "raising money for charity is always a special challenge. Vanco is particularly proud to have been able to support CARE International in its aim to fight poverty and help people all over the world. Of course, Vanco couldn't have achieved this without the effort from all the teams that have been participating in the event and will do so again this year."

Teams are invited to take part by visiting www.challengeseries.org.uk / www.vanco.com (media section), or calling 020 7934 9470 / 020 8636 2942.

About Vanco:

Established in 1988, Vanco plc (FTSE: VAN) is the pioneering and leading global Virtual Network Operator. Vanco does not own telecoms assets and therefore has the freedom to source infrastructure from the most suitable Asset Based Carriers (ABCs) on a global basis. It provides enterprise clients as well as carriers, directly or through partners, with cost-effective, optimized and fully managed network solutions. Carriers can also extend their off-net reach by accessing, through Vanco, other carrier networks around the world. With solutions available in 230 countries and territories, Vanco is selected by the world's largest organizations to provide strategic network

solutions. Its clients include Accor Hotels, Avis Europe, British Airways, Ford Motor Company, IBM/Lloyds TSB, Siemens, Pilkington and Virgin Retail.

About CARE International:

CARE International is an international relief and development agency working with impoverished communities in about 70 countries worldwide, reaching over 45 million people every year. CARE programmes promote positive and lasting change and avoid long-term dependency. CARE also provides emergency relief to survivors of natural disasters and conflicts, including the Asian tsunami (Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, India, Somalia), the devastating earthquake in India/Pakistan and the Southern African countries affected by the ongoing food shortages. For more information, visit www.careinternational.org.uk.

CARE is this year celebrating its 60th anniversary and is currently trying to track down anyone who remembers receiving the famous CARE packages, containing essential food supplies, in the years immediately after the war.

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