



NEWS RELEASE

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Compass Minerals International Appoints Victoria Heider Vice President - Human Resources

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. (April 5, 2004) – Victoria Heider has been named Vice President – Human Resources for Compass Minerals International (NYSE: CMP). She will be responsible for guiding the human resources strategies, policies and procedures for the firm’s 1,500 employees throughout North America and the United Kingdom. She will also serve on the company’s strategic leadership team.

In making the announcement, Michael E. Ducey, president and CEO said, “We are especially pleased to have Ms. Heider directing our human resources function and advancing the company’s strategic vision of maintaining the most knowledgeable and productive workforce in the industry.”

Prior to joining Compass Minerals, Ms. Heider served as Vice President, Global Networks for Aquila, Inc.’s human resources and business planning functions. She has more than 20 years of human resources experience and is a past president of the Kansas City chapter of the Human Resources Management Association and former member of the board of directors of the Kansas City chapter of the Society of Human Resources Management.

About Compass Minerals International

Based in the Kansas City metropolitan area, Compass is the second-leading salt producer in North America and the largest in the United Kingdom. The company operates nine production facilities, including the world’s largest rock salt mine in Goderich, Ontario. The company’s product lines include salt for highway deicing, consumer deicing, water conditioning, consumer and industrial food preparation, agriculture and industrial applications. In addition, Compass is North America’s leading producer of sulfate of potash, which is used in the production of specialty fertilizers for high-value crops and turf.

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