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CONTACT:  
Jennifer Arisman  
Jarisman@thesteelgroup.us

**Steele selected to judge International Business Plan competition**

INDIANAPOLIS – David E. Steele, Managing Principal of the Steele Group, has been selected to the panel of judges at Knox Lawrence International's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Africa Business Plan Competition. This will be Steele's second time participating in the event, being held on April 10 at Columbia University in New York City.

"I am honored to be asked to judge this competition again," says Steele. "These students are providing solutions to improve the quality of life and future economy of Sub-Saharan Africa, and it's exciting to see their plans supported by the private sector."

The competition's focus is developing business plans involving healthcare, energy, education, agro-processing, aquaculture, manufacturing, social networking, venture finance logistics and natural products in Sub-Saharan Africa. Second-year MBA students from top-tier universities around the nation submit their business plans and three finalists are chosen for the grand prize of \$10,000.

This year's finalists are Columbia Business School, MIT Sloan School of Management/Harvard Business School and University of Virginia's Darden School of Management.

Other members of the judges' panel include William M. Guyster (Chairman and CEO of Good Morning Africa, Inc.), James Makawa (CEO and Co-Founder of The Africa Channel), Stephen Murray (Investment Officer at Pan African Capital Group), Judith O'Neill (Chairwoman of Greenberg Traurig's Telecom Division) and Sagiv Shiv (Managing Director at Merriman Curan Ford & Co.).

Knox Lawrence International is a New York-based private equity firm specializing in acquiring and growing small to mid-sized non-core subsidiaries of Fortune 500 and other large companies that are undergoing significant transitions in utilities and telecommunications.

For more information on the Africa Business Plan Competition, visit [abpcompetition.knoxlawrence.com](http://abpcompetition.knoxlawrence.com).

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The Steele Group is a privately held management consultancy specializing in the customer side of business success. The company supports clients in all business sectors with a focus on customer expectation, acceptance and integration of emerging process applications designed to yield financial and customer satisfaction improvement. The Steele Group is headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana and may be found on the web at [www.thesteelgroup.us](http://www.thesteelgroup.us).