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### **DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA APPOINTS CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

ANKENY IA May 21, 2007 -- Delta Dental of Iowa has announced that Cheryl Harding has accepted the position of chief operating officer for the Ankeny-based dental benefits company.

Harding, who was most recently vice president and controller for American Enterprise Mutual Holding Company and its affiliates, will be responsible for leading the finance, underwriting, information technology, and operations functions at Delta Dental. Her previous experience includes financial leadership, network management, and operations roles at ING, Magellan Health, and Ernst and Young.

Delta Dental of Iowa CEO Donn Hutchins said that Harding's position is new to the company and reflects Delta Dental's recent growth and commitment to stakeholders. "Cheryl brings to Delta Dental a unique series of insurance industry experiences that will enhance overall operations and support the customer service reputation Delta Dental is known for," Hutchins said.

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Harding is a graduate of The Ohio State University. She and her family live in West Des Moines, where Harding has been involved in her children's schools, youth sports, and church.

*Delta Dental of Iowa, the largest and most experienced provider of dental benefits in the state, is a member of the Delta Dental Plans Association, a national organization of not-for-profit Delta Dental member companies. The national association is the largest dental benefits carrier in the nation, providing coverage to more than 47 million people in nearly 81,000 employer groups.* ###