



Starmount Life Insurance Named One of the Nation's Fastest-Growing Private Companies by Inc. 5000

Starmount/AlwaysCare jumps 750 spots, one of 69 insurance companies listed

BATON ROUGE, La.—August 24, 2010– *Inc.* magazine has ranked Starmount Life Insurance Company as one of the fastest-growing private companies in the United States for the third time in four years.

A privately owned and operated life insurance and employee benefits provider, Starmount and its sister company AlwaysCare Benefits reported growth of more than 48 percent over the last four years, moving Starmount up more than 750 spots over the 2009 list, to number 3,565 in 2010.

"Our Clients' satisfaction means everything to us, and is a key reason why we are able to join this prestigious list of dynamic companies," said Hans Sternberg, Chairman and CEO, Starmount Life Insurance Company. "We strive to provide Clients with products and services they value most, which is why more than 90 percent of our Clients renew their business with us year after year."

The 2010 Inc. 5000 list ranks privately held U.S.-based, for-profit companies according to percentage revenue growth from January 2006 through December 2009.

In 2010, Starmount and AlwaysCare moved into a new, 24,500-square-foot headquarters and added two additional employee benefit plans—group critical illness and group accident insurance. The companies also launched OnePlusSM, a self-contained <u>individual dental and vision insurance</u> plan for people who want supplemental dental and vision coverage, but do not necessarily have access through an employer or other group.

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Starmount also was ranked in the *Baton Rouge Business Report*'s 2010 list of <u>Top 100 private</u> <u>companies</u>, based on revenue for the most recently completed fiscal year, calendar year 2009.

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About Starmount Life Insurance Company and AlwaysCare Benefits, Inc:

Starmount Life Insurance Company and AlwaysCare Benefits are sister companies, both privately owned and operated. Known for reliable service and customer satisfaction, Starmount offers innovative individual insurance products, while AlwaysCare provides employee benefits such as group dental, vision, life, disability, critical illness and accident coverage in 48 states. For more information, please visit www.starmountLife.com or www.AlwaysCareBenefits.com.

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