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## **IT'S BEEN A WONDERFUL RIDE!** **POSTAL SERVICE EYES END TO PRO CYCLING TEAM SPONSORSHIP**

WASHINGTON — After sponsoring the world-class USPS Pro-Cycling Team for the past eight years, the Postal Service will end its sponsorship of the 24-member team at the end of the year. The Postal Service will continue to support the Team at events in this country and around the world throughout the 2004 racing season.

“It’s been a wonderful ride,” said Anita Bizzotto, Chief Marketing Officer. “The relationship we’ve had with this team, its riders and its owners has been more than we could have ever imagined. The excitement generated by five consecutive Tour de France wins by team leader Lance Armstrong —and potentially a 6<sup>th</sup> record-breaking win this year— has been inspiring and exhilarating to the Postal Service, its employees, and the entire country.”

Since 1996, the Postal Service has been the title sponsor of the USPS Pro-Cycling Team owned and managed by Tailwind Sports. In the past eight years, the team has assisted Lance Armstrong in winning five back-to-back Tour de France championships and has been influential in re-energizing cycling in the United States.

“We have sincerely enjoyed our relationship with the United States Postal Service and the winning tradition they created for our team,” said Bill Stapleton, CEO, Tailwind Sports. “Further, we appreciate their continued support as we seek a new title sponsor for the best cycling team in the world. We are committed to keeping our riders and staff in place for years to come and furthering our goals of winning important events like the Tour de France.”

The Postal Service will be supporting the USPS Pro-Cycling Team as the title sponsor at the following domestic races as well as at the numerous international races, including the Tour de France, July 3-25:

April 20-25	Tour of Georgia	Atlanta, GA
June 1	Wachovia Invitational	Lancaster, PA
June 3	Wachovia Classic	Trenton, NJ
June 6	Wachovia U.S. PRO Championship	Philadelphia, PA
August 1	New York City Cycling Championship	New York, NY
August 21-22	U.S. PRO Criterium Championship	Downers Grove, IL
September 4-5	Vail Classic	Vail, CO
September 14	T-Mobile International	San Francisco, CA

The complete USPS Pro-Cycling Team schedule can be found at <http://www.uspsprocycling.com>.