



## **Ryland Jumps to No. 444 On Fortune 500 List**

### **Homebuilder Also Ranks Sixth in Nation for Five-Year and Ten-Year Return to Shareholders**

CALABASAS, Calif., April 5, 2006 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- The Ryland Group, Inc. (NYSE: RYL), one of the nation's largest homebuilders, has climbed to No. 444 on the 2006 list of the Fortune 500, the company announced today. The ranking, in Fortune's annual list of America's largest companies, is based on record 2005 revenues of \$4.8 billion. Ryland advanced 25 places from No. 469 in the 2005 rankings.

Fortune also recognized Ryland in its lists of the "Best Investments," "Fastest-Growing" and "Most Profitable" companies in the Fortune 500. Ryland ranked sixth in the nation for both its total five-year return to shareholders at an annual rate of 48.4 percent and its 10-year total return of 36.8 percent. In addition, it ranked 22nd for its five-year growth in earnings per share of 43.6 percent and 38th for its year-end return on shareholders' equity of 32.5 percent.

"We are pleased to move up once again in the Fortune 500 and to be recognized for bringing great value to our shareholders," said R. Chad Dreier, chairman, president and CEO of Ryland. "These rankings are a testament to the hard work of our employees and the success of our low-risk, high return business strategy."

Ryland ended 2005 with its seventh consecutive year of record revenues, net earnings, new orders, closings, earnings per share and backlog. The company also was recently named one of "America's Most Admired Companies" by Fortune.

With headquarters in Southern California, Ryland is one of the nation's largest homebuilders and a leading mortgage-finance company. The company currently operates in 28 markets across the country, and has built more than 250,000 homes and financed more than 210,000 mortgages since its founding in 1967. Ryland is a Fortune 500 company listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "RYL." Previous news releases may be obtained at [www.ryland.com](http://www.ryland.com).

SOURCE The Ryland Group, Inc.

Investors, Drew Mackintosh, Director, Investor Relations, +1-818-223-7548, or Media, Marya Jones, Director, Communications, +1-818-223-7951, both of The Ryland Group, Inc.

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