



## PRESS RELEASE

**Paradigm Media Contact**  
Susan Allen Farrell  
Tel: +1 832-567-3747  
sfarrell@paradigmgeo.com

### PARADIGM COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF EARTH DECISION

**AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS – (August 15, 2006)** – Paradigm, a leading software and strategic consulting provider to the global oil and natural gas exploration and production industry, announced today that it has successfully completed its acquisition of Earth Decision, a leading provider of shared-earth modeling software. The acquisition combines the companies' complementary technology portfolios, which is expected to enable their customers' multi-disciplinary E&P asset teams to reduce oil and gas prospect uncertainty and improve the accuracy of their customers' reservoir models and well plans. Financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

John Gibson, Executive Chairman and CEO of Paradigm, said: "We are delighted to have completed the Earth Decision transaction as our combined technologies will give customers a competitive edge. Together with Earth Decision's extensive 3D modeling software, Paradigm will offer its E&P customers worldwide a strategic technology platform from which to solve complex geological problems. We look forward to working together with Earth Decision's experienced management team and talented employees to accomplish our shared objectives."

Jean-Claude Dulac, founder and CEO of Earth Decision, said: "Joining forces with Paradigm is a great opportunity for our employees and the future of Earth Decision. We share a common vision that involves model-centric workflows and a commitment to outstanding customer solutions. We are focused on continuing to provide products and customer support using the highest quality methods and people."

The combined company will be called Paradigm and Mr. John Gibson will remain Executive Chairman and CEO. Mr. Jean-Claude Dulac will remain with Paradigm as Chief Architect. Paradigm expects to maintain Earth Decision's global office network.

#### **About Paradigm**

Paradigm™ offers digital subsurface models of oil and natural gas reservoirs to identify prospects for oil and gas wells and optimize reservoir fluid and natural gas extraction by integrating geological, geophysical, and petrophysical data. Paradigm software solutions include Seismic Data Processing and Imaging, Prospect Visualization and Interpretation, Reservoir Characterization, Well Planning, and Drilling. You can learn more about Paradigm software and strategic consulting offerings by visiting their website at [www.paradigmgeo.com](http://www.paradigmgeo.com).

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**About Earth Decision**

Earth Decision is a leading provider of shared-earth modeling software for asset teams in the oil and natural gas exploration industry. You can learn more about Earth Decision software products by visiting their website at [www.earthdecision.com](http://www.earthdecision.com).

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**Forward-Looking Statements:**

Certain statements in this press release may constitute forward-looking statements. These statements are made on the basis of the views and assumptions of the management of Paradigm and Earth Decision regarding future events and business performance as of the time the statements are made and they do not undertake any obligation to update these statements. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied. Such differences may result from legal or regulatory proceedings or other factors that affect the timing or ability to complete the transactions contemplated herein, actions taken by either of the companies, including restructuring or strategic initiatives (including capital investments or asset acquisitions or dispositions), as well as from developments beyond the companies' control. Such developments may affect assumptions regarding the operations of the businesses of Paradigm and Earth Decision separately or as combined entities including, among other things, the timing of the transaction.

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