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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Stephen W. Chu of SEC Group, Inc. Becomes Certified
As Professional Wetland Scientist (P.W.S.)**

(January 9, 2008) McHenry, IL – SEC Group, Inc., which includes the divisions of Smith Engineering Consultants, SEC Automation and SEC Planning, is pleased to announce that Mr. Stephen W. Chu has received the certification of Professional Wetland Scientist conferred by the Society of Wetland Scientists. Mr. Chu is one of only 13 Professional Wetland Scientists in the State of Illinois, and the only one in McHenry County. Mr. Chu completed his Bachelor of Science Degree in Zoology and Biological Aspects of Conservation with the University of Wisconsin in Madison. He is a Qualified Wetland Review Specialist in Kane County, a Certified Wetland Specialist in Lake County and a Wetland Enforcement Specialist in McHenry County. Additionally, Mr. Chu is a Certified Arborist.

The Society of Wetland Scientists developed the Professional Wetland Scientist Certification to meet the needs of professional ecologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, educators and agency professionals who practice wetland science. The program is aimed at serving the public's need to identify qualified individuals to assess and manage the nation's wetland resources. In his role as an Environmental Scientist, Mr. Chu provides wetland delineation boundaries and designs. He also monitors wetland mitigation areas and provides coordination services with permitting agencies including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for both public and private clients throughout northeast Illinois.

SEC Group, Inc. combines the services of Smith Engineering Consultants, SEC Automation and SEC Planning. Founded in 1981, the company provides expertise in transportation and structural engineering, land development, construction observation and inspection, water and wastewater engineering, wetland services, water resources, land planning, landscape architecture, professional land surveying, SCADA and Control Systems. The company serves clients from offices in Chicago, McHenry, New Lenox, Yorkville, Illinois, Lawrenceville, Georgia and Austin, Texas.

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