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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Albert Whitman & Company announces partnership with IPG**

CHICAGO, February 2, 2017—Independent Publishers Group (IPG, [www.ipgbook.com](http://www.ipgbook.com)) and Albert Whitman & Company ([www.albertwhitman.com](http://www.albertwhitman.com)) are thrilled to announce the formation of an exclusive North American sales and distribution partnership. IPG will provide sales and distribution for Albert Whitman of all frontlist digital titles beginning February 1, 2017, and all frontlist and backlist print titles beginning April 1, 2017. Albert Whitman & Company will also partner with IPG in its initiatives in film and interactive media, forming a coordinated sales and marketing alliance.

Best known for its beloved children's series The Boxcar Children® Mysteries—which celebrates its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year—Albert Whitman & Company has been publishing award-winning children's books for 98 years. Until 2017, the company has handled its own distribution, but continued year-over-year growth has pointed to a need for a more comprehensive distribution plan. The wide-ranging support that IPG offers its client publishers—including niche market access, value-add services, POD options and cutting-edge inventory management technology—will allow Albert Whitman to focus more strategically on what it does best: creating high quality children's books and growing its already widely recognized brand.

“We are proud to partner with a well respected company with similar values and culture. This will allow us to better focus on our core strengths in developing the highest quality children's books and will enable us to explore other content media opportunities. Both Albert Whitman and IPG will positively engage and proactively challenge our respective business models for mutual strategic success.” – John Quattrocchi, President, Albert Whitman & Company.

Both Albert Whitman and IPG consider this partnership a mutually beneficial union, and a model for successful book distribution.

“Partnering with Albert Whitman is a tremendous growth opportunity for IPG, adding high quality, must-have titles to our list. Likewise, IPG's network of more than 10,000 active customers will open new doors to continue Albert Whitman's phenomenal success and growth.” – Joe Matthews, CEO, IPG.

#### About Albert Whitman & Company:

Based in Park Ridge, Illinois, Albert Whitman & Company has been publishing award-winning children's books since 1919. Best known for the classic series The Boxcar Children® Mysteries, its highly praised picture books, novels and nonfiction titles succeed in delighting and reaching out to children and teens of all backgrounds and experiences. An independently owned company since its inception, Albert Whitman is dedicated to continuing its tradition of creating award-worthy books for children. Learn more at [www.albertwhitman.com](http://www.albertwhitman.com), [www.facebook.com/AlbertWhitmanCompany](https://www.facebook.com/AlbertWhitmanCompany) and on Twitter and Instagram [@AlbertWhitman](https://twitter.com/AlbertWhitman).

#### About IPG:

Established in 1971, IPG was the first organization specifically created for the purpose of marketing titles from independent presses to the book trade. IPG was acquired by Chicago Review Press, Inc. in 1987. With consistent growth year-over-year, IPG's success has come from supporting and encouraging the growth of its client publishers in the United States and worldwide. IPG has a wide reach in the market through its distribution of publishers with academic, Spanish-language, computer and general trade nonfiction and fiction titles. Clients include publishers from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Ireland, Israel, Spain and other countries. In 2006, Chicago Review Press, Inc. bought Trafalgar Square Publishing, Inc., the leading US distributor of UK publishers. Trafalgar Square Publishing distributes for clients such as Canongate UK, Penguin UK, Penguin Australia and Random House UK. Visit IPG at [www.ipgbook.com](http://www.ipgbook.com), on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/IPGbook> or on Twitter [@ipgbooknews](https://twitter.com/ipgbooknews).

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