

## **news release**

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### **UNITED VAN LINES TO TRANSPORT 75 MICKEY MOUSE STATUES FOR DISNEY'S 'CELEBRATE MICKEY: 75 INSPEARATIONS' TOUR**

ST. LOUIS, June 18, 2004 – United Van Lines, the nation's largest household goods transportation company, will help the nation celebrate Mickey Mouse's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday by transporting 75 6-foot-tall, 700-pound Mickey statues across the United States. The Suddath Companies, an agent for United Van Lines, has been named the "Official Transportation Sponsor" for the tour and will handle all transportation and logistics services.

The Mickey statues, designed by Disney legends, artists, athletes and actors, reflect each designer's personal interpretation of Mickey Mouse. The "Celebrate Mickey: 75 InspEARations" statue tour began at Disney World, and will go to 14 U.S. cities, including the Disneyland Resort. The nationwide tour culminates in a charity auction in New York, with proceeds from the sale of each statue benefiting the charity of each individual artist's choice.

Although St. Louis is not on the city tour list, United will have a specially designed truck and one of the Mickey statues present at the Independence Day celebration Fair St. Louis.

"United is proud to be a part of Mickey's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday," said Brian Paluch, executive vice president of sales and marketing for United. "When Walt Disney created Mickey Mouse, he created a beloved character that has brought joy and happiness to millions around the world. We hope to spread a bit more of that joy by bringing the Mickey statues to cities throughout the country."

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*United Transports Disney Tour – add one*

The 14 U.S. cities on the tour are Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Kansas City, Los Angeles Minneapolis, New York, Orlando Philadelphia, Portland and Washington D.C. The Kansas City celebration is planned for August 19.

United Van Lines transports electronic equipment, trade show exhibits and displays, works of art, and specialized freight, in addition to household goods. United, with headquarters located in suburban St. Louis, maintains a network of 1,000 affiliated agencies in 135 countries around the world. More information about United and its services can be obtained through the company's Web site at [www.unitedvanlines.com](http://www.unitedvanlines.com).