FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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CDEL SCHEDULES FIRST QUARTER 2009 EARNINGS RELEASE ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2009

Earnings Conference Call to be held on February 17, 2009 at 8:00 am (Eastern) / 5:00 am (Pacific) / 9:00 pm (Beijing/Hong Kong)

BEIJING, CHINA — January 29, 2009 — China Distance Education Holdings Limited (NYSE: DL) ("CDEL" or "the Company"), a leading provider of online education in China focusing on professional education, today announced that it will release unaudited financial results for the first quarter 2009 in the evening on Monday, February 16, 2009.

The earnings release will be available on the investor relations page of its website at http://ir.cdeledu.com.

Following the earnings announcement, CDEL senior management will host a conference call on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at 8:00 am (Eastern) / 5:00 am (Pacific) / 9:00 pm (Beijing/Hong Kong) to discuss its first quarter 2009 financial results and recent business activity. The conference call may be accessed by calling:

Toll Free
United States +1 888 895 0424
China 800 876 5011
Hong Kong +852 3006 8101
United Kingdom 0808 101 5347
Passcode CDEL

A telephone replay will be available shortly after the call until February 24, 2009 by dialing the following numbers:

Toll Free

United States +1 888 895 0424

China 800 876 5011

Hong Kong +852 3006 8101

United Kingdom 0808 101 5347

Passcode 821188

A live webcast of the conference call and replay will be available on the investor relations page of CDEL's website at http://ir.cdeledu.com.

About China Distance Education Holdings Limited

China Distance Education Holdings Limited is a leading provider of online education in China focusing on professional education. The courses offered by the Company through its websites are designed to help professionals and other course participants obtain and maintain the skills, licenses and certifications necessary to pursue careers in China in the areas of accounting, law, healthcare, construction engineering, information technology and other industries. For more information, please visit: http://ir.cdeledu.com.