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Indianapolis -- ADESA Corp. has sold substantially all of the assets of its transportation subsidiary, Great Rigs Incorporated, to The Waggoners Trucking, based in Billings, Mont. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

The sale is part of an ongoing initiative by ADESA and its parent company, ALLETE, to focus on core businesses while maintaining access to key services through outsourcing, as necessary.

"The sale of Great Rigs in no way reflects a de-emphasis on transportation," said Jim Hallett, chairman and CEO of ALLETE Automotive Services. "Transportation and logistics services are a critical part of vehicle remarketing, and this move will allow ALLETE Automotive Services to integrate these services with our overall offerings."

The Waggoners Trucking will provide transportation services to ADESA auctions and their customers, according to David Waggoner, president of The Waggoners Trucking. The new owner will take over operation of Great Rigs' headquarters facilities in Moody, Ala. Employees of Great Rigs will be offered employment opportunities with Waggoners.

"The acquisition of Great Rigs is a good move for us and we're excited to expand our service offerings to ADESA auctions and their customers," Waggoner said. "The addition of the Great Rigs customer base will greatly enhance the continuity of our existing operations."

The Waggoners Trucking is an auto transport, flatbed and oil services operation. The family-owned business, founded in 1951, is an ISO 9002 registered company with more than 1,100 employees across North America.

ALLETE's corporate headquarters are located in Duluth, Minnesota. ALLETE's holdings include ADESA, the second largest wholesale vehicle auction network in North America; Automotive Finance Corp. (AFC), the leading provider of independent auto dealer inventory financing; Minnesota Power, a low-cost electric utility that serves some of the largest industrial customers in the United States; and significant real estate holdings in Florida. For more information about ALLETE, visit the company's web site at www.allete.com.

The statements contained in this release and statements that ALLETE may make orally in connection with this release that are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and investors are directed to the risks discussed in documents filed by ALLETE with the Securities and Exchange Commission.