



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CHINA DISTANCE EDUCATION HOLDINGS LIMITED FILES
ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 20-F**

BEIJING, China, March 16, 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 has filed its annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008 with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The annual report can be accessed on the Company’s investor relations website at <http://ir.cdeledu.com> under the section titled “Financials - Annual Reports.”

CDEL will provide a hard copy of its annual report on Form 20-F containing complete audited financial statements, free of charge, to its shareholders and ADS holders upon request. Requests should be directed to our IR representatives stated below, or in writing to China Distance Education Holdings Limited, 18th Floor, Xueyuan International Tower, 1 Zhichun Road, Haidian District, Beijing China, 100083.

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. The Company also offers online test preparation courses to self-taught learners pursuing higher education diplomas or degrees and to secondary school and college students preparing for various academic and entrance exams. In addition, the Company offers online foreign language courses.

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