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INDEPENDENCE HOLDING CO Form 8-K June 23, 2004

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D. C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) June 23, 2004

INDEPENDENCE HOLDING COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	<u>010306</u>	<u>58-1407235</u>
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	(Commission File Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

96 Cummings Point Road, Stamford, Connecticut	<u>06902</u>
-	

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (203) 358-8000

Item 5. Other Events and Required FD Disclosure.

On June 23, 2004, Independence Holding Company issued a press release announcing acquisition of \$25 million annuity block.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

INDEPENDENCE HOLDING COMPANY

Date: June 23, 2004

<u>/s/ Teresa A. Herbert</u>

Teresa A. Herbert

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Exhibit 99.1

INDEPENDENCE HOLDING COMPANY CONTACT: TERESA A. HERBERT

96 CUMMINGS POINT ROAD (203) 358-8000

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06902

www.Independenceholding.com

NASDAQ - INHO

NEWS RELEASE

INDEPENDENCE HOLDING COMPANY ANNOUNCES ACQUISITION

OF \$25 MILLION ANNUITY BLOCK

Stamford, Connecticut, June 23, 2004. Independence Holding Company ("IHC") (NASDAQ: INHO) announced today that Madison National Life Insurance Company, Inc. acquired an annuity block with reserves of approximately \$25 million.

Mr. Roy T.K. Thung, Chief Executive Officer, commented "We are delighted that we were successful in closing this transaction in the second quarter of the year. We believe that this may be an indication of increased acquisition opportunities for the balance of 2004."

IHC is a holding company principally engaged in the life and health insurance business and the acquisition of blocks of policies through Standard Security Life Insurance Company of New York and Madison National Life Insurance Company, Inc. Standard Security Life markets medical stop-loss, long-term and short-term disability, and group life and managed health care products. Madison National Life sells group life and disability, medical stop-loss, credit life and disability and individual life insurance.

Some of the statements included herein may be considered to be forward looking statements which are subject to certain risks and uncertainties. Factors which could cause the actual results to differ materially from those suggested by such statements are described from time to time in IHC's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.