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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDIANS ACQUIRE RHP CHRIS PEREZ & PTBN FROM THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Send Mark DeRosa to the Cardinals

CLEVELAND, OH—The Cleveland Indians today announced they have acquired **RHP CHRIS PEREZ** and a player to be named from the St. Louis Cardinals in exchange for **INF/OF MARK DeROSA**.

Perez, 23 (turns 24 July 1), has spent the majority of the 2009 season in the Cardinals bullpen going 1-1 with 1 save and a 4.18 ERA (23.2IP, 17H, 12R/11ER, 15BB, 30K) in 29 appearances. He began the 2009 season at AAA Memphis going 1-0 with 2 saves and a 0.00 ERA (4.0IP, 0H, 0R, 3BB, 4K) in 3 appearances before being recalled to St. Louis on April 15th. Perez has limited Major League hitters to a .195 (17-87) average against, including a .180 (11-61) mark against right-handed hitters. He currently has allowed just 2 of 15 (13.3%) inherited runners to score, which is 6th best in the National League and is averaging 11.4 strikeouts per 9.0IP (ranks T20th in the NL in relief SO w/30).

Last year, the Tampa, FL native began the season at AAA Memphis but spent the majority of the season in St. Louis after being promoted on May 16th. He was 3-3 with 7 saves and a 3.46 ERA (41.2IP, 34H, 18R/16ER, 22BB, 42K) in 41 appearances with Cardinals in 2008 and after his second recall on August 6 spent time as the club's closer, recording 7 saves in 9 chances. Following the season Perez was named the 3rd best prospect in the Cardinals organization and the 12th best prospect in the Pacific Coast League by *Baseball America*. He was originally selected in the first round ("sandwich pick", 42nd overall) by the Cardinals in the 2006 First-Year Player draft out of the University of Miami (FL).

DeRosa, acquired by the Indians in the off-season, batted .270 (75-278) with 47 runs scored, 13 doubles, 13HR and 50RBI in 71 games for the Tribe.

Perez will report to the Major League club in the coming days. The Indians will receive the player to be named on or before September 1.

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