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It's Time to Shine: WSA Accepts Applications for Companies to Present at 2008 Investment Forum

Annual event introduces promising tech companies to the investment community

SEATTLE – (Jan. 9, 2008) – The WSA, the state's oldest and largest technology trade organization, is now accepting entries for companies to present at its 2008 Investment Forum, which serves as a unique vehicle for new and promising technology companies in the Pacific Northwest to connect with key venture capitalists and buyers.

The 15th annual Investment Forum is scheduled for April 24, 2008 at the Bell Harbor International Conference Center. The event is expected to draw nearly 350 attendees, who will both listen to presentations from some of the area's most promising tech companies and meet important leaders in the investment community.

This year's forum will feature five different industry sectors:

- Clean tech
- Digital media
- Early-stage/growth
- Web services/software
- Wireless

In total, 30 companies will be selected by a steering committee to present at the forum.

"One of the WSA's main goals is to support the up-and-coming tech companies that make the Pacific Northwest such a rich resource for venture capitalists," said Ken Myer, president and CEO of the WSA. "Our annual Investment Forum is a great opportunity for these companies, who not only get to present their funding and/or sales pitch, but also receive immediate feedback from a leading panel of industry experts."

For the first time this year, the WSA is partnering with the Alliance of Angels – a regionally-focused group of more than 100 individual investors and representatives of investment corporations – to offer the event's early-stage/growth track.

The WSA is also partnering with venture capitalists in both Washington and California to ensure that presenting entrepreneurs can reach a broad set of potential investors. Venture capitalists interested in participating can e-mail sponsorship@wsa.org for more information.

The deadline for companies to apply is Feb. 8, 2008, and applicants are not required to be WSA members. The application is available online at www.wsa.org.

About the WSA

Founded in 1984, WSA is Washington's technology association with over 1,000 member companies representing more than 100,000 software, Internet, telecommunications and technology company employees. The WSA is a catalyst for industry connections and provides members with key business services. As a voice for Washington's technology

industry, the WSA leads the advocacy of issues necessary to grow Washington state's impact as a leader in the digital economy. WSA's global partners are Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, Microsoft, Regence BlueShield, The Hartford and Wells Fargo Insurance Services. WSA's funding partners are AH&T Insurance, Blink Interactive, Inc., Comerica Bank and RealNetworks. For more information, please see www.wsa.org.

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