



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Calling All Tech Leaders: WSA Announces Entry Window for 13th Annual Industry Achievement Awards

Annual celebration to include a new award category for students

SEATTLE – (Oct. 16, 2007) – The WSA, the state’s oldest and largest technology trade organization, is now accepting award entries for its 13th annual Industry Achievement Awards (IAA), an annual awards banquet often considered one of the most prestigious events among Washington’s technology community.

Next year’s IAA event will take place Feb. 7, 2008 at the Westin Hotel in Seattle.

For the 2008 celebration, the WSA is adding a new award category – the “Technology Leader of Tomorrow” award, which will honor exceptional sixth- to eighth-grade students participating in the Technology Access Foundation’s (TAF) TechStart program.

“Our new award reflects the WSA’s broad support for this state’s technology community – including the students who show promise as future leaders in the industry,” said Ken Myer, President and CEO of the WSA. “This is an exciting time for Washington’s thriving technology community, and we expect to receive a record number of impressive entries.”

The IAA celebration – which attracts more than 1,000 business and community leaders each year – honors companies, agencies and individuals who best demonstrate innovation and excellence in technology.

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- Business Product of the Year
- Consumer Product or Service of the Year
- Service Provider of the Year
- Best Use of Technology in the Government, Non-Profit or Education Sector
- Technology Innovator
- Breakthrough Technology of the Year
- Technology Leader of Tomorrow

For the “Technology Leader of Tomorrow” award, three finalists will be selected among students participating in the (TAF) TechStart program. The student winner will then be chosen through an online voting system on the WSA’s Web site, and announced at the event.

Applications for all entries are due by Nov. 16, 2007. Category descriptions and entry forms are available at www.wsa.org/IAA08. Applicants do not have to be WSA members to apply.

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 sponsors are Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, Laird Norton Tyee, Microsoft, Regence BlueShield, The Hartford and Wells Fargo Insurance Services. WSA's funding sponsors are AH&T Insurance, Comerica and Google. For more information, please see www.wsa.org.

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