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Washington Technology Industry Association Opens 2010 Industry Achievement Awards Call for Applications

15th Annual Awards to Feature New Categories for IT and Innovative Manufactured Product

SEATTLE – October 12, 2009 – The Washington Technology Industry Association (WTIA) (<http://www.washingtontechnology.org>), North America's largest statewide association of technology companies, IT departments and individual technology professionals, announced today that it is accepting nominations for its 15th annual Industry Achievement Awards (IAA). The prestigious annual awards program recognizes local companies, agencies and individuals who best demonstrate innovation and excellence in creating technology or serving the industry. Applications are open to WTIA members and non-members and are due by Monday, November 16, 2009. Category descriptions and entry forms are available at <http://www.washingtontechnology.org/IAA>.

New for the 2010 awards are two categories: Information Technology Department Innovation of the Year and Innovative Manufactured Product of the Year. "The WTIA continually strives to recognize excellence across all sectors of the technology community in Washington State," said Ken Myer, president and CEO of WTIA. "Many of the companies that have received Industry Achievement Awards over the past 15 years have had a significant impact on the technology that shapes the way we live and work. We're looking forward to once again celebrating the talent and creativity that have made our state a global center for innovation."

The WTIA will present awards in the following eight categories:

- Commercial Product or Service of the Year
- Consumer Product or Service of the Year
- Service Provider of the Year
- Information Technology Department Innovation of the Year (NEW)
- Innovative Manufactured Product of the Year (NEW)
- Best Use of Technology in the Government, Non-Profit or Education Sector
- Breakthrough Start-up of the Year
- Technology Leader of Tomorrow (Technology Access Foundation scholarships)

Last year's [winners](#) were: Visible Technologies (Commercial Product or Service), Wetpaint (Consumer Product or Service), Ontela (Breakthrough Start-up), AdReady, Inc. (Service Provider), Snohomish County Planning & Development Services (Best Use of Technology in Government, Non-Profit, or Education), Darrin Massena of Picnik (Technology Innovator of the Year), and Israel Zemeadim (Technology Leader of Tomorrow).

Next year's IAA event will take place March 4, 2010 at the Showbox SODO in Seattle. Registration will open in early December.

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About the Washington Technology Industry Association

The Washington Technology Industry Association, founded in 1984, is the largest statewide association of technology companies, IT departments and individual technology professionals in North America. With more than 1,000 member companies representing more than 100,000 employees in Washington State, the association is a catalyst for sharing expertise, fostering collaboration, delivering key business services

and advancing the value and global impact of technology companies doing business in Washington. The association's global partners are Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, Microsoft, Regence BlueShield, Vertafore and Wells Fargo Insurance Services. The association's funding partners are AH&T Insurance, F5 Networks, Moss Adams and RealNetworks. For more information, go to www.washingtontechnology.org.

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