



## WTIA Announces Finalists for 15th Annual Industry Achievement Awards

*Winners to be announced on March 4<sup>th</sup> at the awards celebration*

**SEATTLE – January 11, 2010** – The [Washington Technology Industry Association](http://www.washingtontechnology.org) (WTIA) (<http://www.washingtontechnology.org>), one of the largest statewide associations of technology companies, IT departments and individual technology professionals in North America, today announced the finalists for its [15<sup>th</sup> annual Industry Achievement Awards](#) (IAA). The awards recognize Washington State companies, organizations and students who best demonstrate technology and service innovation and excellence.

The IAA categories and respective finalists are:

- **Commercial Product or Service of the Year:** Apptio, Concur, Talyst® (AutoCool™)
- **Consumer Product or Service of the Year:** Cheezburger Network, COZI, Picnik
- **Breakthrough Start-up of the Year:** DreamBox Learning, Inc., Gist, Inc., VholdR
- **Service Provider of the Year:** Amazon Web Services, Azaleos Corporation, Hubspan
- **Innovative Manufactured Product of the Year:** Neah Power Systems, Inc., Pathway Medical Technologies, Inc., Powerit Solutions
- **Information Technology Department Innovation of the Year:** Experience Music Project and Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame, WhitePages, Washington State Employee Credit Union
- **Best use of Technology in the Government, Non-profit or Educational Sector:** eCityGov Alliance, OneBusAway (in collaboration with the University of Washington), Pierce County Sheriff's Department
- **Technology Leader of Tomorrow:** Geneva Damper of Orca School, Ruby Damper of Orca School, Surafel (Sasu) Techane of St. Joseph School

"We had a terrific group of applicants for this year's Industry Achievement Awards which included two new categories to reflect our broadened scope as a Tech Association. The finalists demonstrate once again the incredible creativity and innovation going on across all sectors of our industry," said Ken Myer, president and CEO of the WTIA. "We congratulate all the finalists and look forward to unveiling the winners in March."

The WTIA will announce the winners at its annual Industry Achievement Awards event on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Held at the [Showbox SODO](#), this casual event celebrates and recognizes some of the best emerging and established companies in the Washington Tech Industry. The evening will feature a finalist company technology showcase and a variety of coffee, chocolate, and wine samples from local companies. More than 800 attendees are expected.

Online voting for Technology Leader of Tomorrow Scholarships will be open February 3<sup>rd</sup>. For more information about the awards, or to register for the awards ceremony, visit [www.washingtontechnology.org/IAA](http://www.washingtontechnology.org/IAA).

The following companies are sponsors of this year's IAA:

- **Presenting Sponsors:** AH&T Insurance, Barokas Public Relations, Microsoft, Regence BlueShield, Vertafore and Wells Fargo Insurance Services.
- **Creative Sponsor:** RocketDog Communications
- **Productions Sponsor:** Seamless Event Solutions
- **Public Relations Sponsor:** Sterling Communications, Inc.
- **Technology Showcase Sponsors:** Accenture and Avanade
- **Gift Bag Sponsor:** Attachmate
- **Supporting Sponsors:** Allyis, Benefit Solutions, Inc., Cooley Godward Kronish, LLP, Hunt Marketing Group, Summit Law Group, UW Computer Science & Engineering and Xconomy
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#### **About the Washington Technology Industry Association**

The Washington Technology Industry Association, founded in 1984, is one of the largest statewide associations of technology companies, IT departments and individual technology professionals in North America. With more than 1,000 members representing more than 125,000 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 Microsoft, Regence BlueShield, Vertafore and Wells Fargo Insurance Services. The association's funding partners are AH&T Insurance, F5 Networks, Moss Adams LLP and RealNetworks. For more information, go to [www.washingtontechnology.org](http://www.washingtontechnology.org).

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