



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington Technology Industry Association and Northwest Entrepreneur Network Partner to Offer Joint Membership

Dual Members to Benefit From Both Organizations' Services and Programs at a Discounted Rate

SEATTLE – February 3, 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, and the Northwest Entrepreneur Network (NWEN) (<http://www.nwen.org>), an organization dedicated to helping entrepreneurs succeed, today announced the availability of a joint individual membership. The joint WTIA and NWEN membership will enable technology professionals to benefit from the programs and services of both organizations for a fee of \$260 per year, a cost savings of 25 percent over the price of the combined membership fees for each association.

"This partnership was a natural fit, as both the WTIA and NWEN are dedicated to providing the local technology industry with the tools and services they need to succeed," said Ken Myer, president and CEO of the WTIA. "By offering a joint individual membership at a discounted price, we're offering one-stop access to our combined services at a time when entrepreneurs and companies of all sizes are looking for ways to cope with a challenging economic climate."

Newly appointed NWEN Executive Director Rebecca Lovell agrees: "Now more than ever, whether for a newly-minted entrepreneur or a small business owner, entrepreneurs need a competitive edge. And NWEN and the WTIA can leverage the strength and scale of our networks to provide our members with critical services and support at an affordable price."

Individuals who register for the joint membership will receive access to discounts on both organizations' industry events and services. The WTIA provides cost-competitive access to discounted services — such as healthcare and insurance benefits, discounted products from other member companies, government lobbying, events, etc. — that might otherwise be beyond the reach of individuals, smaller businesses and entrepreneurs. In addition to educational programming and business connections, NWEN's member services include discounted insurance services, best-practice business templates, exclusive events, and a tailored advisory network.

For more information on how to register for the dual WTIA and NWEN membership, contact either organization at membership@washingtontechnology.org or membership@nwen.org.

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, Sun Microsystems, Vertafore and Wells Fargo Insurance Services. The association's funding partners are AH&T Insurance, Comerica Bank, F5 Networks, GrapeCity, Moss Adams and RealNetworks. For more information, go to www.washingtontechnology.org.

About the Northwest Entrepreneur Network

The Northwest Entrepreneur Network is a non-profit organization that provides the learning, connections and inspiration entrepreneurs need to build companies with high growth potential. NWEN has more than 800 members and produces more than 40 events and programs each year focused on starting and running rapidly growing companies. Upcoming events include the inaugural First Look Forum scheduled for March 24, 2009 at the Big Picture in Seattle, and as a follow-on to our signature Entrepreneur University, ongoing educational programming designed to develop specific C-level skill sets. For more information and an events calendar, go to www.nwen.org.

###

Media Contacts:

Katie James
Sterling Communications for WTIA
206-388-5758
kjames@sterlingpr.com

Rebecca Lovell
Northwest Entrepreneur Network
425- 564-5700
rl Lovell@nwen.org