



Press Contact:
Michelle Perkins
DPR Group, Inc.
919-678-9200
mperkins@dprgroup.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NCTA Announces Technology Winners at Annual 21 Awards

*Record crowd of technology and business leaders
from across the state attend 16th annual event*

Raleigh, N.C. (November 13, 2009) – The North Carolina Technology Association (NCTA), the primary voice of the technology industry in North Carolina, announced today the winners of the *2009 NCTA 21 Awards*. Winners were recognized at the annual awards gala on Thursday, November 12 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Cary, N.C., presented in conjunction with title sponsor Grant Thornton. This year's event, with the theme "Survivor: Outtech, Outdevelop, Outlead," was attended by a record crowd of more than 650 business and technology leaders from across the state.

"Despite a tough economy, 2009 has been an outstanding year for NCTA with a record number of new member companies joining the organization, and a record turnout for the *21 Awards*," said Brooks Raiford, NCTA's president and CEO. "We are proud to bring together such a strong group of businesses and individuals in North Carolina, and we believe that this year's winners are truly technology's best leaders."

The *NCTA 21 Awards* are recognized as North Carolina's most prestigious awards, celebrating innovation and excellence in North Carolina. This annual showcase honors companies and individuals in 21 categories who represent the best and brightest in technology and business.

NCTA is pleased to congratulate this year's winners:

Technology Industry Awards

Software Company of the Year: iContact Corporation
Life Sciences Company: Cornerstone Therapeutics
Best Product or Service Technology Company: CC Intelligent Solutions
Most Innovative Technology Company: TransEnterix
Industry Driven Technology Company: Railinc
Green Technology Company: Unifi Manufacturing

Excellence Awards

Private Company: Connexion Technologies

Public Company: Tekelec
Customer Service Company: Peak 10
Fastest Growing Company: USfalcon
Leading Environmental Steward Company: IBM
Corporate Citizenship Company: Microsoft Corporation

Stage of Development Awards

Small Technology Company: K3 Enterprises
Mid-Size Technology Company: Hosted Solutions
Large Technology Company: Red Hat
NCTA Volunteer of the Year: David H. Jones and Marlon Headen
Outstanding NCTA Member: EMC Corporation
Public Education Leadership: AT&T
Public Leadership: Dr. James Woodward
Technology Executive of the Year – People’s Choice: Dr. Michael Capps
Outstanding Achievement Award: Darleen Johns

About NCTA

The North Carolina Technology Association’s mission is “Making North Carolina #1 in Technology and Technology #1 in North Carolina.” The organization does this through three main focus areas: executive engagement, public affairs, and knowledge workforce. For more information, visit our website at www.nctechnology.org.

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