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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Top Ten Growth Award winners announced
Top companies to be honored at the Portland Business Alliance Annual Meeting

Portland, Ore...Hundreds of local business people and civic leaders will gather May 10 to honor 10 fast-growing companies in the Portland region. Oregon Iron Works, Miles Fiberglass, and Tri-Star Search and Staffing won top honors in this year's Top Ten Growth Awards.

Sponsored by the Portland Business Alliance and *Oregon Business* magazine, the annual Top Ten Growth Awards were created more than 20 years ago to honor businesses that show promising growth over a 12-month period. Awards are given to four small, three medium and three large businesses. Winners are determined by the number of full-time-equivalent employees added in 2006, the percentage increase of gross revenue/sales over the previous year, and the length of time in business. Firms have to be in business two years before they are eligible.

This year's winners are:

Small Companies (25 or fewer employees)

First place: Tri-Star Search & Staffing
Second place: eventBuilders
Third place: PODS (Portable On Demand Storage)
Fourth place: Executive Accounting, Inc.

Medium Companies (26 to 100 employees)

First place: Miles Fiberglass & Composites Inc.
Second place: PREM Group
Third place: Rose City Mortgage Specialists

Large Companies (more than 100 employees)

First place: Oregon Iron Works
Second place: Neil Kelly Company
Third place: S.D. Deacon Corporation of Oregon

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The awards will be presented at the Portland Business Alliance Annual Meeting, an event that draws more than 1,000 local business and civic leaders. This year's keynote speaker is Richard Davis, President and CEO, U.S. Bancorp.

Judy Pepler, President of Qwest Oregon, will provide a review of the Alliance's accomplishments over the past year. Mayor Tom Potter will also speak. Gillian Floren, Publisher of *Oregon Business* magazine will present the awards.

There are still some seats available. For ticket information, please contact Christine Gatlin at 503-552-6742 or register online at www.portlandalliance.com/events.

Winner Profiles

Oregon Iron Works, Clackamas, OR

Oregon Iron Works, Inc. was founded in 1944 and has its headquarters in Clackamas, with a facility in Vancouver, Washington. This innovative business is constantly adapting and expanding its core expertise in order to meet customer needs and program requirements. Oregon Iron Works is involved in the aerospace, nuclear, marine, mechanical, wave energy, bridges, hydroelectric and streetcar industries. The company was recently awarded a \$4 million contract to produce the nation's first domestically-manufactured modern streetcar.

Neil Kelly, Portland, OR

Neil Kelly Company, a Portland based design-build general contractor, is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. This family-owned business, often recognized for quality kitchen and bathroom remodeling, also provides whole house remodeling, custom new home construction, handyman services, and home energy and air quality assessments to area homeowners. In 2006 Neil Kelly completed the first home in the West certified by the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED standard.

S.D. Deacon Corporation of Oregon, Portland, OR

S.D. Deacon is a general contractor specializing in a variety of commercial construction projects including retail, high-tech, hospitality, education, office and restoration. S.D. Deacon has enjoyed much growth and success during its 26-year history. In 2006, S.D. Deacon ranked fifth in *Portland Monthly's* "20 Best Places to Work in Portland" and 12th in *Oregon Business* magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work for in Oregon."

MEDIUM COMPANIES

Miles Fiberglass, Portland, OR

Miles Fiberglass & Composites is a 44-year-old Oregon family business founded by Lowell Miles. Miles Fiberglass produces a variety of products using open molding, vacuum bagging, press molding, resin transfer molding and vacuum forming

processes. With two locations in Oregon City and Portland, the Miles Fiberglass has more than 80,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing space and operates its own research and development department.

PREM Group, Portland, OR

PREM Group, headquartered in Portland, Oregon, was founded in 1993. As one of the largest commercial property management companies in Oregon, PREM Group offers a complete range of real estate management services for office, retail, mixed use, industrial and multi-family properties, primarily in Portland and the surrounding area. Its portfolio consists of approximately 2.5 million square feet of real estate assets valued at more than \$1 billion. PREM group is also one of the largest managers of LEED certified real estate in the Pacific Northwest.

Rose City Mortgage Specialists, Portland, OR

Working with more than 100 lenders, Rose City Mortgage Specialists offers home and commercial loans throughout Oregon, Washington and California. The firm is one of the nation's first socially responsible mortgage brokers, raising a total of more than \$100,000 for 53 nonprofits. Rose City Mortgage Specialists donates back to the community for each loan, and also aims to do business with no negative impact on the world by offsetting their carbon consumption and recycling. The company has grown from one to 27 employees since its 1999 launch.

SMALL COMPANIES

TriStar Search & Staffing, Portland, OR

Tri-Star Search & Staffing is a full service agency providing temporary, consulting and permanent placement services specializing in accounting and finance, information technology, engineering and general office and administrative recruiting and staffing. Tri-Star prides itself on finding careers for candidates rather than jobs. Tri-Star is committed to providing an unparalleled level of service to its clients in the northwest and across the country. As a certified minority owned business, Tri-Star can assist companies with their own diversity hiring processes.

EventBuilders, Portland, OR

Established in 2001, eventBuilders handles entire event and project planning for tradeshow, live consumer events, road shows, special events and corporate meetings and seminars. Outsourcing event planning and marketing is the most cost effective way for businesses to ensure quality service, meet marketing objectives and immediately grow the bottom line. EventBuilders is 100 percent woman owned and operated, and has grown more than 100 percent since 2001. They have worked companies such as Comcast, Home Builders Association, KGW and Providence Health Systems.

PODS, Portland, OR

PODS (Portable On Demand Storage) is a leading provider of mobile storage and moving solutions for residential and business customers. PODS of Oregon and SW Washington services an area from Longview, Washington to Medford, Oregon. PODS'

convenient cost-effective service is unique in that the patented hydraulic lift is designed to significantly reduce shift in contents and securely transport PODS brand containers, locally, state to state or to a safe and secure warehouse.

Executive Accounting, Inc., Lake Oswego, OR

Executive Accounting, Inc. has a unique marketing strategy: Give them your shoebox of receipts and they will turn them into financial statements. Executive Accounting provides clients with peace of mind, accurate financial reporting, more time and less paper stress. The company caters to small business owners who want to spend more time developing their business, and less time on paperwork.

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