

## Twenty-Eight Female Executives Representing Phancorp, World Vision, Wal-Mart and Others Receive Global Awards

24 June 2009 – San Francisco – Global EXEC Women recognized five female recipients and twenty-three honorees, semi-finalists, and finalists through the International Women of Influence Awards™. AT&T and Exhibits South sponsored the awards during the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) Conference in San Francisco.

The International Women of Influence Awards™ are an initiative from Global EXEC Women's International Council, which is comprised of Consul Generals, trade commissioners and country representatives from Australia, China, England, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom. They are committed to promoting female executives' leadership roles in global business. The International Women of Influence Awards™ seek to honor women who are changing the way global business is conducted. These women have reached international status for outstanding work in their fields and are known for their leadership and achievements.

"These dynamic leaders are influential in their respective fields and community. They are all powerful examples of women conducting international business and we are proud to honor them," remarked Virginia A. Bradley - Founder, CEO and Publisher of *Global EXEC Women Magazine*. "Since participation in this event is expanding, we are honoring one recipient for each country represented."

The judging process begins with a review of the qualified nominees by members of the Global EXEC Women International Council. The final judging is completed by a team of female business executives, which include: Robin Bienfait, Chief Information Officer, Research In Motion (RIM) Blackberry; Vicki Hamilton, Senior Vice President, Turner Broadcasting System and Karen Robinson, Serial Entrepreneur, who has raised 70 million in venture capital and is currently serving on multiple private and global boards.

"I am truly enthralled to have participated in the awards process this year. The judging was extremely competitive due to the high caliber of our nominees," stated Global EXEC Women judging committee chair, Vicki Hamilton who is also Senior Vice President, Turner Broadcasting System, Inc.

The 2009 International Women of Influence Awards™ recipients, finalists, semi-finalists, and honorees are as follows:

### **United States Recipients**

#### **Corporate:** Chelle Moore

Vice President, International Human Resources – Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

#### **Emerging/Growth:** Diana Anderson

Founder and Chief Executive Officer – D.L. Anderson International, Inc.

#### **Non-Profit:** Joanna Wasmuth

Global Director, Marketing – World Vision

**Philippine Recipient**

Helen Marquez  
Chief Executive Officer and President  
ePLDT Ventus, A Subsidiary of Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company

**Canadian Recipient**

Isabel Alexander  
Founder and President – Phancorp, Inc.

**Finalists:**

**Corporate:** Cheryl Harris  
Senior Executive, Procurement and Supplier Diversity Delivery – Accenture LLP

**Corporate:** Gordana Schifanelli  
Vice President, Investments – Wells Fargo & Co.

**Emerging/Growth:** Kanchana Raman  
President – Avion Systems, Inc.

**Non-Profit:** Marsha Firestone  
Founder and President – The Women Presidents’ Organization

**Semi-Finalists:**

**Corporate:** Lilia Bailey  
Chief People Officer – Manheim, A Division of Cox Enterprises

**Emerging/Growth:** Elizabeth Perelstein  
President – School Choice International

**Non-Profit:** Hiroko Tatebe  
Founder and Executive Director – GOLD

**Honorees:**

Tara Abraham  
Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer – Accel, Inc.

Susan Baka  
President – Bay Communications and Marketing, Inc.

Janelle Barlow  
Partner – TMI World

Robina Bernard  
President – Klik-Klik Systems, Inc.

Jayne Edison  
Chief Executive Officer and President – Office Furniture Innovations, LLC

Sheri Eichelberger  
Associate Vice President, Global Sales and Service – AT&T

Jill Frey  
Chief Executive Officer and President – Cummins Building Maintenance, Inc.

Lorrinda Gray-Davis  
Director, Diversity – Perini Building Company

Kathy Greco  
Director, Supplier Diversity and Program Services – ManPower, Inc.

Julie Hens  
Vice President, Channels U.S. and Canada Distribution – Cisco Systems, Inc.

Laxmi Hiremath  
Founder and Chief Executive Officer – Laxmi's Delights

Leslie Meingast  
Chief Executive Officer and President – The Personnel Department

Tara Spann  
Director, Diversity Initiatives – Staples, Inc.

Liz Sponseller  
Managing Director – Abatek, Inc.

Wilka Varela Toppins  
Operational Vice President, Diversity Strategies – Macy's, Inc.

Kate Vitasek  
Founder and Chief Executive Officer – Supply Chain Visions

### **About Global EXEC Women**

*Global EXEC Women Magazine* is an award-winning, multi-lingual, online and print publication that features female business executives, women business owners and entrepreneurs that conduct international business. Last year, the publication was selected to be included in the seat pocket of Delta Air Lines' inaugural flight to China.

We connect female business and technology executives with other women of influence for interactive forums and a perspective for regional, national and international business. We recognize women around world with our International Women of Influence and Luminary Awards™. The 2010 awards will be presented in Cairo and other locations. For more information, visit: [www.globalexecwomen.com](http://www.globalexecwomen.com).

### **About WBENC**

The Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) is the leading advocate for, and authority on, Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs) as suppliers and vendors to the nation's corporations. WBENC is also the nation's leading third-party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women, with WBENC certification accepted by more than 1,000 corporations, representing America's most prestigious brands, as well as government entities at the state, local and Federal levels. Throughout the year, WBENC's RPOs provide opportunities for interactions between more than 250 member corporations and over 8,500 certified WBEs at business building events and other forums. For more information, visit: [www.wbenc.org](http://www.wbenc.org).