Network Computing Professionals Winners Honored for Professionalism and Excellence

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA – April 23, 2012. The Awards for Professionalism sponsored by the Network Professional Association® (NPA), in conjunction with Interop, Microsoft, GITCA, Cisco Press, Windows IT Pro and Agile IT announce two winning individuals in the area of IT professionalism. The international contest for the Awards for Professionalism honors individuals working as network computing professionals. Selection is based on meeting the ideals of the Network Professional Association, the advocate for the network computing professional, including contributions to the community and industry and professionalism practiced in the workplace. Winners will receive a specially designed personalized trophy, a one-year membership in the NPA and a Cisco Press prize pack with multiple books of their choice. Read the story at www.AwardsforProfessionalism.org.

Congratulations to our esteemed winners in the following categories:

The Best Networking Professional – Career Achievement Award is awarded to an individual who has demonstrated the highest levels of integrity, professionalism and ethics throughout their career. **Professor Tadao Saito**, CTO Toyota, is a global top pioneering leader, inventor, researcher and innovator shaping business, industry, research, education, government policies, international standards and society. Professor Saito is recognized for his lifetime contribution to the IT profession — for his work in a variety of subjects related to digital communication and computer networks, —for his contributions to the community by involvement in standards and policy organizations.

 His first patent from 1964 is on digital time division switching networks and he invented both Time-Space-Time and Space-Time-Space time division. His research includes a variety of communication networks and its social applications such as ITS (Intelligent Transport System). Saito is also the chairman of New Generation IP Network Forum of Japan. Included in his past research from the 1970's, Saito was a member of the designing group for the Tokyo Metropolitan Area Traffic Signal Control System. He authored two books on electronic circuitry, four books on computers and two books on digital communication and multimedia. He also worked on a variety of "deregulation of communication services" to form a legal framework suited for advanced network technology in Japan. From 1998 to 2002 he was the chairman of the Telecommunication Business Committee of the Telecommunication Council of the Japanese government and contributed to regulatory policy of telecommunication business for broadband networks. Tadao is also the Japanese representative for the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) General Assembly and Technical

Committee 6 (Communication Systems). He is a life fellow of the IEEE and honorary member and life fellow of the IEICE.

The members of the Awards for Professionalism truly applaud the work of **Professor Tadao Saito**, an outstanding member of the Professional IT community.

<u>Top of the Mark - Volunteer Award</u> honors the networking professional who has made the most effective combination of the ideals of professionalism and is a notable example of the best in giving back through selfless effort**. Ravikanth Chaganti** is a valued volunteer the Bangalore IT community. He demonstrates the enthusiasm and commitment desired in the eyes of his peers.

Ravikanth has over 11 years of experience in the IT industry and is known for his willingness to share his knowledge with his peers and the technical community. Ravikanth has been one of the instrumental personalities behind the success of Bangalore IT Pro user group (http://bitpro.in). Ravikanth has been a very active member in the Windows PowerShell community. He has authored several technical articles along with two very successful free e-guides. These e-guides -- combined -- were downloaded for almost 40079 times. He regularly blogs at http://www.ravichaganti.com. His blog gets almost 12000 visits a month and is one of the most popular PowerShell blogs. Through this blog, Ravikanth shares his knowledge with the community and helps answer their questions. Ravikanth has been a Microsoft Windows PowerShell MVP for two years now. He is also a very active member of Stack Overflow forums and Microsoft TechNet forums where he helps other member with their PowerShell related questions. Ravikanth is also a public speaker and can be heard speaking at various industry events within India and outside.

The members of the Awards for Professionalism recognize the need and value of volunteers sharing in the IT community. We applaud the efforts work of **Ravikanth Chaganti**, Top of the Mark and outstanding volunteer in the Professional IT community.

This year's awards will culminate with a dinner celebration May 7 during Interop in Las Vegas at the Bayside Bay Buffet in Mandalay Bay. NPA members, Consortium partners as well as and past and present winners are invited to attend!

<u>*Sponsors of the Awards for Professionalism*</u>
Interop, *the leading business technology event, is proud to support NPA's Awards for Professionalism, honoring outstanding contributions in the networking industry held during Interop Las Vegas, May 6-11 at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center.*

Microsoft, *a leader in the support of IT professionalism and ethics, is proud to support NPA's Awards for Professionalism, honoring the inspiring activities of network computing professionals around the world.*

Cisco Press *is a publishing alliance between Cisco® (NASDAQ: CSCO) and the Pearson Education division of Pearson plc (NYSE: PSO). Established in 1996, Cisco Press is the official publisher of Cisco networking technology, Cisco certification self-study, and Cisco Networking Academy Program materials. Leading authorities from Cisco and other industry innovators write and contribute to the*

Cisco Press product family which combines instructor-led training with hands-on instruction, e-learning, and self-study.

Cisco Press is proud to support the Network Professional Association (NPA) in awarding outstanding achievements within the network computing industry. Providing education materials and promoting professional growth are part of the Cisco Press mission; sponsoring the NPA awards allows Cisco Press to recognize those who have truly excelled in the industry. Visit ciscopress.com for more information.

***GITCA (Global IT Community Association)** is an international not-for-profit organization devoted to the development and growth of the IT community. After supporting and connecting professional user groups and associations, student organizations, and solution providers for more than four years we have come to understand the goals and needs of each group, as well as the resources they have to share. We are happy to support the efforts of organizations such as the NPA that promote excellence in all that they do, ultimately elevating the status of the IT Pro both in their industry and in the community.*

***AgileIT** from deploying half-a-million desktops with new software, systems, and applications, to cloud migrations, to malware protection, Agile IT covers the entire spectrum of business IT needs. With a core competency in helping clients get more from their existing Microsoft Solutions, Agile IT delivers expertise in planning and consulting, hands-on development work, management and maintenance, training, and more. The entire team at Agile IT is honored to support the NPA in its ongoing mission of fostering both better practices and communities among network computing professionals, and continuing to ensure the highest standards are met and maintained.*

***Windows IT Pro** community is the heartbeat of the Windows IT world—a gathering of people, content and resources focused on Microsoft Windows technologies and applications. Within this community, members find independent analysis, candid appraisals, real-world troubleshooting, trustworthy content, and behind-the-scenes insight to help keep their Windows infrastructure running smoothly.*

***NPA**, Established 1993, the non-profit Network Professional Association® (NPA) is the leading organization for network computing professionals. To be identified as true professionals, the NPA's international membership adheres to a code-of-ethics, continual demonstrated professional development, adherence and knowledge of the latest best practice standards, and strives for continual growth. The widely acknowledged and the industry's only international Awards for Professionalism honors individuals for their outstanding achievements in network computing and meeting the values of professionalism. The impartial strength of the NPA is a result of vendor neutrality and self-regulation.*

*The **CNP** is the consummate professional credential of the NPA. Career growth, proven experience, validated certification, advanced education, ethics and NPA membership are all steps towards achieving the CNP – Certified Network Professional credential.*

A member of the NPA believes in the values of the professional association, its focus on the CNP credential and the professional status of network professionals through advocacy. Members receive a certificate of membership, quarterly Journal publications, benefits derived through chapters and programs, and opportunities to volunteer, publish and develop

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NPA: ADVOCATE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK COMPUTING PROFESSIONAL