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Global IT Industry Alliance Appoints New Chairman

Taipei - The World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA) today announced the appointment of George Newstrom as its new Chairman. Mr. Newstrom took over the leadership of the global industry alliance during a special ceremony today at the 2000 World Congress on Information Technology - the preeminent global IT executive conference hosted by WITSA since 1978. Newstrom is an EDS Corporate Senior Vice President and President, EDS Asia Pacific, headquartered in Hong Kong, and is on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Information Technology Association of America (ITAA), the U.S. WITSA member association. Mr. Newstrom also served as Chairman of the 1998 World Congress on IT held in Fairfax, Virginia, USA.

Mr. Newstrom replaces Robert B. Laurence, who has served as chairman of the global alliance for 8 years. Mr. Laurence welcomed Mr. Newstrom to the WITSA chairmanship: "It has been an honor to serve and to see WITSA grow from under 20 to more than 40 countries and regions today. I am pleased to be turning over the reins to a global IT leader such as George Newstrom, and I look forward to watching WITSA continue to grow," Laurence said.

"I am delighted to receive this opportunity to serve the global IT industry," Mr. Newstrom said, adding, "I believe that when governments, business and consumers work together, we can create a better world through the use of information technology. It's our responsibility to bring industry together, to promote a trustworthy online business environment, and to play an active role in educating regulators and technology users on the great potential of IT to work for the betterment of life, preservation, the environment, society, and humanity."

Sponsors of this global event are helping to bring together some of the foremost IT industry, government, education and consumer stakeholders," said Newstrom.

"I am excited that Mr. Newstrom will add new energy to our programs and activities, such as the benchmark study on IT-spending, 'the Digital Planet', our initiatives on e-commerce, trade negotiations, digital opportunity and information security," Mr. Laurence added.

About EDS

EDS is a recognized global leader in providing E-business and information technology services to 9,000 business and government clients in about 50 countries around the world. Having founded the IT services industry more than 35 years ago, EDS delivers high value management consulting, electronic business solutions, business process management, and systems and technology expertise to help clients simplify complexity and achieve superior value in the digital economy. The company brings deep industry practice knowledge to solve challenges in a wide variety of industries, including communications, energy and chemicals, financial services, government, healthcare, products and retailing, and travel and transportation. EDS reported revenues of \$18.5 billion in 1999. The company's stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE:EDS) and the London Stock Exchange. To find out more about the EDS vision, visit EDS via the Internet at <http://www.eds.com>.

About WITSA

The World Information Technology and Services Alliance is a consortium of 41 information technology (IT) industry associations from economies around the world. As the global voice of the IT industry, WITSA is dedicated to advocating policies that advance the industry's growth and development; facilitating international trade and investment in IT products and services; strengthening WITSA's national industry associations through the sharing of knowledge, experience, and critical information; providing members with a vast network of contacts in nearly every geographic region of the world; and hosting the World Congress on IT, the only industry sponsored global IT event. Founded in 1978 and originally known as the World Computing Services Industry Association, WITSA has increasingly assumed an active advocacy role in international public policy issues affecting the creation of a robust global information infrastructure. For additional information about WITSA and its activities, go to www.witsa.org.

The WITSA Secretariat is currently hosted by the Information Technology Association of America (ITAA). For more information about ITAA, please visit its web site at www.ITAA.org.

About the World Congress on IT

The 2000 World Congress on IT is a biannual high level program for information technology executives around the globe, including renowned speakers such as Bill Gates, John Chambers, Carly Fiorina and others. The theme of the 2000 World Congress is IT for a Better World: A New Millennium. The event examines how technology works to the mutual benefit of people throughout the globe, and how IT can contribute to better education, government services, and healthcare. The WITSA Awards were presented during the June 13th 2000 World Congress on IT evening program, Culture Night, which took place at the renowned Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall in Taipei. Information about the WCIT2000 can be found at www.worldcongress2000.org.