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News Release

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For immediate release

Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2011 South Central Ohio & Kentucky Award winners announced

Exemplary entrepreneurs were honored at program's 25th anniversary gala

July 1, 2011 – Ernst & Young LLP is pleased to announce the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® South Central Ohio & Kentucky Award winners. This group of leading entrepreneurs was selected by an independent judging panel made up of previous winners of the award, leading CEOs, private capital investors and other regional business leaders. The winners were revealed at a gala event on June 30 at the Hyatt Regency Cincinnati.

"Ernst & Young has honored outstanding entrepreneurs like this year's winners for the past
25 years," said Alan Greenwell, Ernst & Young LLP Entrepreneur Of The Year South Central Ohio & Kentucky Program
Director. "These business leaders have accomplished so much and contributed a tremendous amount to the community.
They give us hope for what the next 25 years of entrepreneurs will bring."

The Ernst & Young LLP Entrepreneur Of The Year 2011 Award winners are:

- Christopher Dirksing, Managing Director, Brighton Capital Partners, LLC
- Christopher Irion, Chief Executive Officer, e-Cycle, LLC
- Gary James, President, Dynalab, Inc.
- Cindy Monroe, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Thirty-One
- Charles Price, President and Chief Executive Officer, Charah, Inc.
- Dr. Janet Reid, Managing Partner, Global Novations
- Carey Smith, President, Big Ass Fan Co.
- Pamela Springer, President and Chief Executive Officer, Manta Media Inc.
- Steve Wilson, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, 21c Museum Hotel



The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2011 South Central Ohio & Kentucky Honorees are:

- Joe Chlapaty, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc., Master Entrepreneur
- Daniel Meyer, Chief Executive Officer, Nehemiah Manufacturing Company, Social Entrepreneur
- Bill Samuels Jr., Chairman Emeritus, Maker's Mark, Lifetime Achievement Entrepreneur

The Entrepreneur Of The Year Program honors entrepreneurs regionally in June, leading up to the national awards in November. Additionally, venture-backed companies that win an Entrepreneur Of The Year Award regionally are also eligible for the Entrepreneur Of The Year Venture Capital Award of Excellence on a national level. The overall National US winner then moves on to compete for the Ernst & Young World Entrepreneur Of The Year Award in June.

This year, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Program celebrates its 25th anniversary. The program has expanded to recognize business leaders in more than 140 cities and more than 50 countries throughout the world. Awards are given to entrepreneurs who demonstrate excellence and extraordinary success in such areas as innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities.

All regional honorees are invited to the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Awards gala, hosted by Jay Leno, on November 12, 2011, in Palm Springs, California. The gala is the culminating event of the Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum®, the nation's most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies. For more information on the Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum, please visit www.ey.com/us/strategicgrowthforum.

Sponsors

Founded and produced by Ernst & Young LLP, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards are pleased to have the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation as a national sponsor.

In South Central Ohio & Kentucky, sponsors include Frost Brown Todd LLC, Thompson Hine LLC, Business Courier Cincinnati, Business First Columbus, Business First Louisville and The Eisen Agency.

For more information about the program, please visit www.ey.com/us/eoy.

About Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year

Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year is the world's most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs. The unique award makes a difference through the way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential, and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and



only truly global award of its kind, Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 140 cities in more than 50 countries.

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