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GTDC ANNOUNCES 2008 'RISING STAR' AWARD WINNERS

Third-annual rankings honor IT distribution industry's fastest-growing vendor partners

GTDC SUMMIT, NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. / Sept. 17, 2008 – The [Global Technology Distribution Council](#) (GTDC) today announced the winners of its 2008 Rising Star Awards. Recipients were selected based on their year-over-year sales with GTDC members, which winners increased between 15 and 200 percent, as determined by [The NPD Group](#) in its [Distributor TrackSM](#) service (available by subscription). GTDC members, representing a total of more than \$100 billion in revenue, serve IT solution providers and other resellers as well as retailers with end-user customers of all sizes, including the small-to-midsize business (SMB) market. Following are this year's Rising Star Award-winning vendor partners, honored last night at a dinner event as part of the GTDC's annual [Summit](#) conference, which concludes today. HP Chairman and CEO Mark Hurd was the evening's featured keynote speaker.

\$500 Million+ Category

Manufacturer / Publisher	Rising Star Ranking
Seagate	Gold
Sony	Silver
Panasonic	Bronze
Intel	Honorable Mention

\$100 Million - \$500 Million Category

Manufacturer / Publisher	Rising Star Ranking
Nokia	Gold
F5	Silver
NetApp	Bronze
Toshiba	Honorable Mention
Samsung	Honorable Mention
Ergotron	Honorable Mention
Polycom	Honorable Mention

\$20 Million - \$100 Million Category

Manufacturer / Publisher	Rising Star Ranking
LG	Gold
AOC	Silver
Planar	Bronze
ASUS	Honorable Mention

(continued)

GTDC Summit Today

The GTDC Summit conference today, September 17, features keynote presenter Matt Medeiros, president and CEO of SonicWALL; prominent industry researchers, consultants and analysts; as well as distribution industry executive panelists. An interactive audience response system survey is conducted live on site with vendor channel executive attendees to support industry discussions and recommendations. For more information on the Summit and other GTDC events, go to <http://gtdc.org/events.htm>.

Rising Star Awards Methodology

Sales results for Rising Star award winners are based on actual U.S. revenue growth over the past year, as reported by industry research organization The NPD Group in its Distributor TrackSM service. Available by subscription, the Distributor Track aggregates actual distributor sell-through data to enable sharp insight into channel sales and pricing trends with the ability to drill down into specific product subcategories, including detailed attributes based on specific areas of interest. To be eligible for a Rising Star award, vendors are required to have sold corresponding products through IT distributors for a minimum of one year.

About The NPD Group, Inc.

The NPD Group is the leading provider of reliable and comprehensive consumer and retail information for a wide range of industries. Today, more than 1,600 manufacturers, retailers, and service companies rely on NPD to help them drive critical business decisions at the global, national, and local market levels. Information is available for the following industry sectors: automotive, beauty, commercial technology, consumer technology, entertainment, fashion, food and beverage, foodservice, home, office supplies, software, sports, toys, and wireless. The NPD Group's Distributor Track® delivers the most comprehensive U.S. market research information available on product sell-through in the IT distributor market, using sales data from the world's leading IT distributors, including members of the Global Technology Distribution Council (GTDC). For more information on The NPD Group and Distributor Track, visit www.npd.com.

About The Global Technology Distribution Council

The Global Technology Distribution Council (GTDC) is a worldwide industry association dedicated to defining and promoting the role of wholesale distribution in a successful and healthy information technology channel. The Council is comprised of the computer industry's top wholesale distributors dedicated to serving "the channel," a network of skilled value-added resellers and retail stores focused on providing hardware, software, and services to businesses and consumers around the globe. GTDC members include ABC Data, Actebis, Arrow Electronics (NYSE: ARW), Avnet (NYSE: AVT), Bell Microproducts (NASDAQ: BELM), DCC SerCom, D&H, Esprinet, Ingram Micro (NYSE: IM), Magirus AG, Redington, ScanSource (NASDAQ:SCSC), Synnex (NYSE:SNX), Tech Data (NASDAQ: TECD), Westcoast LTD and Westcon.

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