



Contact Information:

Victoria Tobin
Managing Director
W.net
Phone: 520.908.6037
Fax: 520.908.7241
vtobin@w-net.biz

Heartland's Robert Carr is Awarded W.net's Highest Honor

September 24, 2008 Phoenix, AZ: W.net is proud to announce Robert Carr, Chairman & CEO of Heartland Payment Systems as the recipient of the 2008 W.net Stiletto Award. This award, which is W.net's highest honor, is the first W.net DIVA (Driving Improvement Via Action) Award to be announced. W.net President Mary Gerdts said, "Bob Carr was the first individual to step forward in 2005 to proclaim his passionate support of W.net and his on-going support of W.net has been extraordinary. We are so proud to honor him with this prestigious award."

W.net has established four DIVA Awards: Stiletto Award, Diversity Champion Award, Spirit Award and the Strongest LINC Award. The W.net DIVA Awards honor the outstanding achievements of individuals, companies and W.net members who demonstrate an unwavering commitment to W.net and its mission to inspire and empower women in the electronic transactions industry to maximize their individual potential and position themselves for greater personal success.

DIVA Award nominees are voted on by secret ballot and are kept highly confidential until they are announced at W.net's Designer BootCamp Career Development & Leadership Summit, which will be held October 23-24 at the Westin Chicago River North.

The Stiletto Award is the only award announced in advance as it is an at-random, selective award that is not intended to be awarded on an annual basis, only on an extraordinary basis. The Stiletto Award celebrates an individual who works tirelessly to empower women for greater success, and who demonstrates a commitment to W.net and elevating the status of women to new heights within the industry. In addition to announcing the Stiletto Award, W.net would like to honor all the 2008 DIVA nominees:

The Diversity Champion Award recognizes a W.net Corporate Sponsor/Champion who exemplifies the spirit of diversity through contributions and in practice within their organization, and has demonstrated leadership in expanding opportunities for women. The Nominees for the Diversity Champion Award are: Chase Paymentech, First Data, and TSYS Acquiring Solutions.

The Spirit Award recognizes an individual W.net committee volunteer who exemplifies outstanding leadership within the association and encourages and motivates others to participate in the promotion and support of the W.net brand. The Nominees are: Sarah Owen – VP, Product Development, First Data USA, Carmen Paraschiv – EVP, Project Management Exadigm, and Linda Rossetti – President, Bluestone Payments.

The Strongest LINC Award recognizes a W.net LINC (Local Interest Networking Circle) for their outstanding achievements throughout the year. As W.net LINC's are just being established this year, the first presentation of Strongest LINC Award will be in 2009.

About W.net (www.w-net.biz) Women Networking in Electronic Transactions (W.net) was founded in 2005 to inspire and empower women in the electronic transactions industry to maximize their individual potential and position themselves for greater personal success.