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Hi-Tech Community Salutes President's E-Gov Initiatives

Four Initiatives Nominated for FOSE Showcase of Excellence Award

Washington, D.C. – Four of the President's E-Gov initiatives were nominated for the Showcase of Excellence Award honoring the programs that best exemplify the government's efforts to improve the delivery of services to citizens at FOSE 2003, the largest information technology exposition serving the government marketplace. The initiatives were Free File, regulations.gov, GoLearn.gov, and GovBenefits.

"Dealing with the government used to require an advanced degree in patience. The President's E-Gov Initiatives took the operations of the government and put them on the Internet in a way that's easy to use, is open 24 hours, and won't put you on hold. The four initiatives honored today show what's possible when the government puts the needs of the citizens first," said Mark Forman, Associate Director of Information Technology and E-Government, Office of Management and Budget.

- **Free File** enables at least 60% of taxpayers to prepare and file their taxes for free; Free File has received more than 6 million hits, and more than 2 million taxpayers have used the service, http://www.irs.gov/app/freeFile/welcome.jsp.

- **Regulations.gov** allows citizens to easily find, read, and comment on proposed rules and regulations. With more than 2.6 million hits since its launch, regulations.gov is a key component of the E-Rulemaking initiative to improve the access to, and quality of, the government reg writing process while streamlining and increasing the efficiency of internal agency processes, www.regulations.gov.

- **GoLearn.gov** provides a single point of online training and strategic human capital development solutions for all federal employees, allowing many more employees to receive training at a fraction of the cost of current efforts. With more than 36 million hits since its launch, GoLearn is part of the E-training initiative that will modernize federal employee competency and work force competency training, www.golearn.gov.

- **GovBenefits** provides a single point of access for citizens to locate and determine potential eligibility for government benefits and services. With more than 4 million hits since its launch, GovBenefits is listed as one of USA Today's "Hot Sites," www.govbenefits.gov.

The ten finalists for the Showcase of Excellence Awards will demonstrate their projects in E-Town at FOSE 2003, which runs from April 8 -10 at the Washington Convention Center. From the finalists, two will be selected by the Quad Council Executive Committee to receive the 2003 Showcase Award and announced at the CIO Council Awards luncheon at FOSE on April 9th.

The E-Government Initiatives are an integral part of the President's Management Agenda to make it easier for citizens and businesses to interact with the government, save taxpayer dollars and streamline citizen-to-government transactions. For more information on each of the President's E-Government initiatives, please visit www.egov.gov.

For more information, please contact OMB Communications at 202-395-7254 or visit our Web site at www.omb.gov.

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