

INNOVATION AWARDS PRESENTED IN L.A.

Companies Honored for Technologies that Advance and Enhance Productivity for Tax and Accounting Professionals

LOS ANGELES, June 7, 2005 – Products focused on data security, productivity enhancement and client convenience were among the winners of the 2005 Tax and Accounting Technology Innovation Awards, which were announced Monday night at the California Accounting and Business Show & Conference in Los Angeles. Sponsored by *The CPA Technology Advisor*, the awards recognize advancements to existing technologies as well as innovative developments in software, services, hardware and other applications marketed to the tax and accounting profession.

“Our profession faces many challenges in today’s marketplace,” said Gregory L. LaFollette, CPA.CITP, Executive Editor of *The CPA Technology Advisor*. “Innovative technology can help us meet those challenges and maintain our high levels of trust and even improve our personal client relationships.” *The CPA Technology Advisor’s* Tax and Accounting Innovation Awards recognize and celebrate the significant accomplishments of companies who provide that technology.

“These products improve the daily lives of tax and accounting professionals. The technologies these companies provide consistently improves not only the client-accountant relationship but also the overall productivity and profitability of practicing accountants.”

The recipients of this year’s Tax and Accounting Technology Innovation Awards are:

- **CCH INCORPORATED** for CCH@Hand, a tax and accounting research-focused toolbar that sits at the top of Microsoft Office products, including Word, Excel and Internet Explorer, allowing users to quickly launch searches of CCH’s Internet Research NetWork without interrupting their workflow. The system logs in automatically and goes directly to the necessary point within the NetWork product.
- **DoubleSight Displays** for multi-panel display monitors that enhance productivity by allowing professionals to work in multiple applications in their own full-sized window at the same time, as well as being better able to view wider documents like spreadsheets.
- **Maxtor** for Maxtor OneTouch II, an external hard drive that simplifies the process of backing up and storing data. Its one-step “pushbutton” approach makes it about as easy to use as a toaster, but gives users the benefit of a reliable backup solution.

- **Thomson Creative Solutions** for UltraTax CS 1040 Portals. The web-based system allows 1040 clients year-round access to read-only *.PDF copies of their tax returns through a private, secure Internet portal. Clients can print their return as needed, without requiring administrative assistance. The system also works with online tax organizers that interface with the tax preparation program, reducing data-entry time.
- **UTS, Inc.** for the development of the TaxWise CashWise Card, which enables tax professionals to provide the speed advantage of electronically deposited tax return funds to even their unbanked clients. The card also helps these clients avoid costly check-cashing services and provides them with a safe and convenient way to handle their money. The debit/ATM card is usable at more than 2.3 million locations.

More than 75 software, hardware and service products were nominated for this year's awards. Recipients were selected by the editorial staff and the Editorial Advisory Board of *The CPA Technology Advisor*, which includes accounting and tax professionals from across the country who are engaged in public practice in firms ranging from sole practitioners to major, multi-office regional practices. To be eligible for consideration, nominated products must be either recently developed or have undergone significant enhancement within the last two years. Additionally, they must be commercially available and directly marketed to the accounting and tax profession. Beta version products are not eligible.

This year, *The CPA Technology Advisor* also recognized several vendors and products with Honorable Mention certificates. Honorable Mention recipients include the following: CNG 5.0 from Cabinet NG; Capital Backup/Vytal Vault from Compunite Computers; Confirm from Capital Confirmation; Dragon Tag from Rivet Software; Fujitsu ScanSnap Scanning Solution from Fujitsu; Groove Virtual Office v 3.0 from Groove Networks; Net Worth Express PRO Edition from KISS Computer Company; Portfolio Tax Analyzer from ATX, Inc.; QuickBooks: Premier Accountants' Edition 2005 from Intuit; and WebEmployee from Thomson Creative Solutions.

About *The CPA Technology Advisor*

Founded in 1991 as *The CPA Software News*, *The CPA Technology Advisor* is an independent information source for practicing public accountants and tax professionals, dedicated to providing them with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions regarding implementing various technologies in their practices. Through in-depth reviews and comparisons of technology products and services, topical features and detailed due-diligence charts, *The CPA Technology Advisor* helps

practicing public accountants and tax professionals explore, purchase and implement new technologies efficiently and productively. The magazine's audited circulation of approximately 50,000 tax and accounting professionals look to it for its editorial independence and integrity. Neither *The CPA Technology Advisor* nor its parent company, Cygnus Business Media, Inc., own or invest in the products or services reviewed or covered in the publication. It is this independence that has enabled *The CPA Technology Advisor* to become the most respected and widely distributed magazine focusing on technology available to practicing public accountants and tax professionals.