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Techlink Northwest Is Named to Entrepreneur Magazine's Hot 100 List for Second Year in a Row

SEATTLE, WA — May 23, 2006 — Entrepreneur Magazine released its latest hot 100 list of America's fastest-growing new businesses in America and Techlink Northwest, one of only two Washington state companies to make the grade, is named for the second year in a row.

Techlink Northwest (www.techlinknw.com) is one of the top providers of hardware and software product development engineers on a contract and permanent basis to technology companies in the Puget Sound area; they were one of 10 staffing companies to be named on the list.

"I think the reason for our fast and consistent growth," Donn Harvey, founder of Techlink Northwest, explained, "is our technical focus, experienced staff of technical recruiters and the increased use of a contingent engineering workforce to staff new product development projects."

According to the American Staffing Association, the temporary employment business has grown to be a multi-billion dollar industry. In 2005, the staffing industry generated more than \$82 billion in revenue. Of that total, \$70 billion was from temporary and contract services.

"Technical Staffing is one of the fastest growing sectors of the staffing industry," explained Harvey. "America's workforce is changing and more people are seeking flexibility in employment; in turn, companies are tapping into that labor market to keep fully staffed during busy times or when assistance is needed on a special project."

The U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that staffing companies, at the close of the first quarter for 2006, posted a nearly 5.2 percent gain over the same quarter last year. Specifically, Techlink Northwest's contract employment index increased 15 percent for the quarter; and is 89 percent higher than the same time last year.

Entrepreneur Magazine chooses companies based on information from several financial sources such as Price Waterhouse Coopers and the National Venture Capital Association. The fastest-growing companies are mailed questionnaires, and financial statements must be provided. The company's sales growth is then measured from their date of inception.

To be considered, businesses must have been founded no earlier than 2001; the founder must be actively involved in the daily operations and have controlling interest; 2005 sales must be at least \$1 million; and the company must have fewer than 1,000 employees.

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