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## Telework Exchange Calls for Nationwide Telework Adoption as Prescription to Swine Flu Outbreak

*Online Community Offers Support for Organizations to Take a Proactive Stance on Business Continuity Planning*

**ALEXANDRIA, Va., April 28, 2009** – Telework Exchange<sup>SM</sup>, a public-private partnership focused on promoting telework, today calls for organizations to proactively adopt telework programs to ready for the much-discussed swine flu threat. Telework is a central plank in continuity of operations planning (COOP) and plays a vital role in helping organizations maintain functionality during emergency situations that make it undesirable to go to the office.

According to the Office of Personnel Management's most recent Status of Telework in the Federal Government Report to Congress, currently 60 percent of Federal agencies include telework in their COOP plans, but only 7.62 percent of Federal employees telework on a regular and reoccurring basis. In order to be 100-percent effective, telework must be incorporated into organizations' standard operating procedure and tested often. Without preventative measures in place, operations will grind to a screeching halt. The Federal government must take a leadership position in disaster preparedness. If Uncle Sam calls in sick, who will tend to America in a time of an emergency?

Telework Exchange offers myriad resources at [www.teleworkexchange.com](http://www.teleworkexchange.com) to support agencies and organizations in their COOP preparedness:

- **Continuity of Operations and Telework Center:** Tools and advice on telework and COOP programs (<http://www.teleworkexchange.com/resource-center-resources-coop.asp>)

- **Resource Center:** Tools for teleworkers, teleworker managers, and information technology professionals on COOP, security, technology, best practices, and legislative developments in telework ([www.teleworkexchange.com/resource-center.asp](http://www.teleworkexchange.com/resource-center.asp))
- ***The Teleworker.*** A bi-monthly publication reporting exclusively on telework ([www.teleworkexchange.com/teleworker-03-09.asp](http://www.teleworkexchange.com/teleworker-03-09.asp))
- **Telework Value Calculators:** Online tools that tally potential cost savings and environmental benefits associated with telework ([www.teleworkexchange.com/calc-select.asp](http://www.teleworkexchange.com/calc-select.asp))
- **Online Eligibility Gizmo:** A quiz-based calculator that helps employees cut through the double-speak and ambiguity surrounding their eligibility to telework ([www.teleworkexchange.com/gizmo/](http://www.teleworkexchange.com/gizmo/))

“Telework is not a ‘break glass in case of emergency’ solution”, said Cindy Auten, general manager, Telework Exchange. “As households stock up on necessities and watch for school notices, organizations must embrace telework now to inoculate themselves against the swine flu threat. We encourage workers across America to ask their managers about telework options now.”

Join Telework Exchange for free and receive the latest news and telework information for you and your organization. Visit [www.teleworkexchange.com](http://www.teleworkexchange.com) for more information and to sign up.

### **About Telework Exchange, LLC**

Telework Exchange is a public-private partnership focused on demonstrating the tangible value of telework and serving the emerging educational and communication requirements of the teleworker community. The organization facilitates communication among teleworkers, telework managers, and IT professionals. For more information on Telework Exchange, please visit [www.teleworkexchange.com](http://www.teleworkexchange.com).