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Telework Exchange and Telework!VA Partner to Host Unlock Gridlock 2010 Conference

Free One-Day Event Opens Doors to Alternative Commuting Options and Telework in Virginia

ALEXANDRIA, Va., March 15, 2010 – Telework ExchangeSM, a public-private partnership focused on expanding telework adoption, in partnership with Telework!VA, will host Unlock Gridlock 2010, a free educational and networking event focused on promoting alternative commuting options to Virginia organizations. Industry experts and Commonwealth officials will come together to discuss how to implement and expand organizational telework programs to boost Virginia businesses' productivity and bottom-line performance, as well as unlock gridlock on Virginia roadways. The event will take place at the Gannett/*USA Today* Corporate Headquarters in McLean, Virginia on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

According to the recent Commonwealth of Virginia/Telework Exchange "What We Saved, What We Learned" report, the U.S. workforce could save approximately \$161 billion in commuting costs, avoid 130 billion driving miles, and remove 120 million tons of pollutants from the air by teleworking one day per week for a year.

"Expanding telework programs is key to eliminating gridlock throughout Virginia," said Thelma Drake, director of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), which administers the Telework!VA program. "In addition to providing highway congestion relief, telework provides significant cost savings to both businesses and employees. It is imperative for Virginia businesses to understand the benefits of telework and to learn how to make it a reality for their organizations – that's why we are hosting Unlock Gridlock 2010."

“From record-breaking snow to the Federal focus on the needs of working families, there has never been a better time to adopt telework and Virginia has the opportunity to lead by example,” said Stephen W.T. O’Keeffe, executive director, Telework Exchange. “There is a lot of talk about public-private partnerships – here’s a very real example of public-private partnership in action. Co-sponsored by Telework!VA, Unlock Gridlock 2010 focuses on engaging the Virginia business community to demonstrate the bottom-line benefits of telework for their organizations. Unlock Gridlock 2010 provides a platform for representatives from Virginia businesses to interact one-on-one with leading telework and innovative transportation experts and learn how to make the business case for telework.”

Unlock Gridlock 2010 is open to representatives from employers with offices and facilities in Virginia. For more information about sponsorship opportunities or to register for Unlock Gridlock 2010, please visit www.teleworkexchange.com/unlockgridlock.

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 government teleworker community. The organization facilitates communication among teleworkers, telework managers, and IT professionals. For more information on Telework Exchange, please visit www.teleworkexchange.com.

About Telework!VA

Telework!VA is a program of the Commonwealth of Virginia’s Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) that provides hands-on telework support and training to employers in Virginia. Telework!VA offers up to \$50,000 in financial incentives to businesses and non-profits in Northern Virginia and up to \$35,000 in Richmond and Hampton Roads for eligible telework-related expenses. For more information on Telework!VA, please visit www.teleworkva.org.