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The Alliance for Performance Excellence and Shaw Resources sign license agreement for software to score Baldrige Award applications

Scorebook Navigator™ service enables Examiners of Baldrige-based assessments to save 25% to 30% of the time required to evaluate Award Applications.

Issaquah, WA – February 25, 2009: The Alliance for Performance Excellence, a partner of The Foundation for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, Inc., signed an agreement to purchase a five-year license for the Scorebook Navigator™ software from the designer/developer of the software, James Shaw of Shaw Resources. The web-based service provided by the Scorebook Navigator™ software enables examiners to quickly reference the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence and applicant Key Factors in order to complete the evaluation in a secure web-based environment. Users of the Scorebook Navigator are able to share the results of their review in a collaborative real-time environment.

“Early users of the service claim it reduces their workload by 25% to 30% or more. We are pleased to make this breakthrough service available to all the men and women who volunteer their time to evaluate Alliance award applications,” said Paul Kuchuris, Chairman of the Alliance Board of Directors. “We provide the service via the Baldrige Enterprise web site for use by all Alliance member State and Local Baldrige-based award programs.

In 2007, as a Senior Alumni Examiner, Shaw became personally committed to simplifying the task of scoring an award application via use of software. As a result of his commitment, Scorebook Navigator™ was developed as a subscription-based service. “As a Baldrige Examiner in the mid-1990s, I knew the time commitment was extensive,” said James Shaw, President and Founder of Shaw Resources. “Examiners are volunteers and I wanted a way to alleviate some of the tedium inherent in evaluating an application. The Scorebook Navigator™ service is a culmination of my experience as an examiner coupled with my background in software.”

The Scorebook Navigator™ service is available at www.Baldrigepe.org for examiners whose Award program is a member of the Alliance for Performance Excellence. Commercial and other entities are encouraged to inquire about subscriptions or licenses by contacting Shaw Resources at www.ShawResources.com or by calling 888-Shaw-Res (888-742-9737).

About The Alliance for Performance Excellence

The Alliance, a partner of the Baldrige Foundation, is the national network of Baldrige-based State and Local Quality Award Programs. Its member organizations provide potential award applicants and examiners, promote the use of the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence, and disseminate information regarding the Baldrige Award process and concepts. More information is available online at www.Baldrigepe.org.

About The Foundation for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Inc.

Congress established the Baldrige Award program in 1987 to recognize U.S. organizations for their achievements in quality and performance and to raise awareness about the importance of quality and performance excellence as a competitive edge. The award recognizes role model organizations in all areas of the US economy including business, health care, education, and the public/nonprofit sector.

The Baldrige Foundation is a nonprofit, private-sector organization that raises funds to endow the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. It is the vehicle through which organizations and individuals support the Baldrige program and its mission of improving the performance of organizations in every sector of the U.S. economy. The Foundation's Board oversees the investment and disbursement of award funds, and approves the funding plans and funding requirements to ensure a successful award program. More information is available online at www.Baldrigepe.org.

About Shaw Resources

Shaw Resources, founded in 1990 by James Shaw, assists public sector, healthcare, including hospitals and other healthcare delivery/service organizations to identify and implement operational improvements in quality and cost effectiveness utilizing a customer-focused analytical methodology. More than half of the Shaw clients have been healthcare providers, primarily large (200+ beds) California-based acute care hospitals. Shaw provides consulting services and software to organizations using the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence. James Shaw first became a member of the Baldrige Board of Examiners in 1994.

During 1996/1997, he was a member of the Baldrige Healthcare Pilot team, and was first named a senior Baldrige Examiner in 1997. Shaw's Scorebook Navigator™ software is used by many state and local Baldrige-based award programs via partnership with the Baldrige Foundation. More information is available online at www.ShawResources.com.