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Guru.com Honored by the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City

Freelance Marketplace Contributes to Economic Development in Distressed Communities Worldwide

Pittsburgh, PA — June 3, 2009 — Guru.com, the world's largest online marketplace for freelance talent, was ranked 28th on the 2009 Inner City 100 list – an annual award program of the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC) and BusinessWeek SmallBiz magazine. The Inner City 100 is the only national business ranking to celebrate and support high-growth inner-city companies that create jobs, income and wealth for residents of distressed communities regionally, nationally and internationally.

Innovative practices and sustained growth are the predominant traits of the 2009 Inner City 100 winners. The 2009 winners grew at a compound annual growth rate of 40 percent and an average rate of 324 percent between 2003 and 2007. Individually, the average Inner City 100 Company's revenues were \$23 million. Collectively, the top 100 inner city businesses have employed nearly 17,000 people and created nearly 10,000 new jobs over the past five years.

During the same five-year growth period, Guru.com reported over 290,000 project-based job opportunities posted to its website with more than 128,000 freelance transactions completed. In 2008, more than 100,000 projects were posted.

"Guru.com's mission has always been focused around the creation of global job opportunities for skilled individuals," said Inder Guglani, CEO and Founder for Guru.com. "By leveraging the remote work model, a Guru.com Freelancer may find work opportunities locally, nationally or internationally – regardless of where he or she resides."

"We are delighted to celebrate businesses like Guru.com that are playing a critical role to revitalize distressed urban communities throughout America," said Michael Porter, founder and CEO of ICIC. "By creating jobs, income, and wealth for local residents, these high-growth businesses are vivid proof that the most effective way to address economic inequality in America is to equip every community to prosper in the market system. Inner City 100 companies also provide a window into the future where all companies will need to learn to address diverse customers and mobilize diverse workforces."

Over 5,000 companies were nominated to the Inner City 100 this year. The 2009 Inner City 100 winners operate from 55 cities in 31 states. Pennsylvania has six companies on the list with four based in Philadelphia and two in Pittsburgh.

As a Winner, Guru.com was invited to attend the Inner City 100 Summit in Boston for a two-day event featuring seminars and a CEO Forum at Harvard Business School, a reception at the Harvard Club of Boston, and a gala awards dinner at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. The complete 2009 Inner City 100 list can be found at www.icic.org.

About the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City

The Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC) is a national not-for-profit organization founded in 1994 by Harvard Business School professor Michael E. Porter. ICIC's mission is to promote economic prosperity in America's inner cities through private sector engagement that leads to jobs, income and wealth creation for local residents. ICIC brings together business and civic leaders to drive innovation and action, transform thinking and accelerate inner city business growth and investment.

About Guru.com:

Guru.com (www.guru.com) is the world's largest online marketplace for freelance talent. Created in 1998, Guru.com's web-based marketplace directly connects businesses with freelancers locally, nationally, or globally who specialize in over 160 professional categories including the following: website design, programming, graphic design, business consulting, and administrative support. Employers seeking professional expertise get quotes from freelancers on their contract work for free. Freelancers seeking work either register as a free (Basic) member or a subscribing (Guru) member.

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