



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### 12 CALIFORNIA ORGANIZATIONS RECOGNIZED FOR INNOVATION, WORLD-CLASS SERVICE, AND PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE

*(San Diego, January 30, 2008)* Leading California's economic vitality, 12 organizations are recognized for their performance excellence by the California Awards for Performance Excellence (CAPE). The California Council for Excellence (CCE), which administers the CAPE, named its 2007 Award recipients today. These leading organizations represent business, education, healthcare, non-profit, and military.

The top Gold-level recipients are: Naval Surface Warfare Center, Port Hueneme Division, and Auto Expert, Inc. located in Riverside.

CAPE Silver-level award recipients are: Eastern Municipal Water District, Perris; Student Success Program Inc./Charter School of San Diego, San Diego; San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, San Diego; Loma Linda University Medical Center, in Loma Linda.

CAPE also recognized four Bronze-level award recipients including: Proteus, Inc., Visalia; Children's Hospital of Orange County, Orange; Victor Elementary School District, Victorville; Los Angeles Universal Preschool, Los Angeles.

Two organizations received the California Prospector Award which is the CAPE Level Two Award. Recipients include Fleet Card Fuels in Bakersfield, and Downtown WorkSource Center located in Los Angeles.

The award program, which emulates the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Program, recognizes organizations that demonstrate superior performance in seven key business areas including leadership; strategic planning, customer and market focus, measurement and knowledge management, human resources, process management and business results. MaryAnn Pranke, Chair of the CAPE Award stated "We use the same criteria for evaluating organizations as the national program. The rigorous Baldrige Criteria are recognized internationally as the hallmark for performance excellence and allow us to select award winners to serve as role models for all California organizations. To recognize 12 organizations representing such diverse industries and sectors demonstrates the strength of our great State."

CAPE also oversees the Governor's Awards for Excellence and the United States Senate Productivity Awards. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger stated, "I extend my congratulations to all of the distinguished award winners. Thank you for your adherence to the highest standards of excellence and I wish you every future success."

The CAPE Award recipients will be honored at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference & Awards Ceremony to be held on Friday, March 28, 2008, at the Renaissance Hotel in Long Beach. Ms. Pranke invites interested organizations to contact MaryKay Johnston, Program Manager, at [marykay@calexcellence.org](mailto:marykay@calexcellence.org).

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