

For Immediate Release

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U.S. State Department Awards Courtesy Associates Contract for 2007 President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief HIV/AIDS Implementers' Meeting

WASHINGTON, D.C. – June 5, 2007 – Courtesy Associates, celebrating 60 years in the global meetings industry, has been awarded a contract by the U.S. State Department's Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator to provide full meeting management services to the 2007 President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) HIV/AIDS Implementers' Meeting. The conference, with the theme "Scaling Up Through Partnerships," will be held in Kigali, Rwanda, June 16 to 19 and will be attended by 1,700 delegates representing 52 countries.

"Courtesy is honored to have been chosen to work with the U.S. State Department and PEPFAR," said Courtesy Associates President Sheila Stampfli, who will accompany eight Courtesy Associates staff members to Rwanda for the conference. "Preparing for an international conference of this magnitude in just five months has presented our Courtesy staff with unique opportunities to provide creative solutions. For example, we have secured housing by working with more than 100 hotels, apartments and private homeowners in order to accommodate a record number of attendees. Courtesy was also instrumental in negotiating with airline carriers to schedule additional flights during conference dates."

The conference will include a full schedule of plenary sessions, meetings and presentations of abstracts, as well as a special performance by the Rwandan National Ballet at the opening reception. English will be spoken throughout the conference but the opening and closing plenary sessions also will be presented to attendees through simultaneous translation in French and Kinyarwanda, the national language.

The objective for the 2007 Implementers' Meeting (the fourth of five) is to share lessons learned during the implementation of multi-sectoral HIV/AIDS programs, with a focus on issues including the scale-up of prevention, treatment and care programs; building local capacity; quality; and coordination among partners. Additionally, the forum facilitates open dialogue about future directions of HIV/AIDS programs, with an emphasis on implementation and identification of critical barriers and best practices.

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About Courtesy Associates

Courtesy Associates is a recognized leader in the full-service conference and event management industry. Courtesy serves a wide range of clients in the government, medical, technical, association and corporate arenas, creating programs for audiences ranging from 50 to 10,000. Courtesy provides clients with a single point of contact and unparalleled expertise in vendor negotiation and management, logistics and planning (onsite, pre- and post-event), exhibit and sponsorship sales, budget development and oversight, theme development and event design, production, event marketing and fundraising, and site selection. Courtesy Associates is owned by SmithBucklin, the world's largest association management and professional services company with more than 750 employees. SmithBucklin is 100% employee owned. For more information, please visit www.courtesyassociates.com.

About SmithBucklin

SmithBucklin is the world's largest association management and professional services company providing flexible, tailored full-service management and function/project-specific services to more than 235 trade associations, professional societies, technology user groups, government institutes/agencies and corporations. SmithBucklin's mission is to drive growth and build sustained competitiveness for client organizations. Founded in 1949, the company employs 750 professionals specializing in all phases of association activity including executive management, member and chapter administration, convention and trade show management, marketing and branding, Web services, education and programs, government relations and financial management. SmithBucklin manages more than \$250 million in annual client budgets from offices in Chicago, Washington, DC, St. Louis and Durham, NC. SmithBucklin is 100% employee owned. For more information, please visit www.smithbucklin.com or call 1.800.539.9740.