

*For Immediate Release*

**Contacts:** Randy Labuzinski/David Schulte  
Healy Communications  
312/440-3900  
[rlabuzinski@healyco.com](mailto:rlabuzinski@healyco.com)

### **Courtesy Associates Executive Diane Melton Receives IEEE Magnetics Society's First-Ever Special Recognition Award**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. – Oct. 13, 2006** – Courtesy Associates Meeting and Events Executive Diane Melton has received the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Magnetics Society's first-ever Special Recognition Award in honor of her two-and-a-half decades of continuous service to the International Magnetics (Intermag) Conference and the IEEE Magnetics Society. Melton received the award at the May 2006 Intermag Conference in San Diego.

In front of a crowd of 1,100 during the Intermag Conference's plenary session, Ohio State University physics professor Dr. Philip Wigen praised Melton for her 25 years of "faithful and distinguished service to (the) magnetics community" and her dedication to the Society, which benefits more than 40,000 conference attendees on three continents. Wigen was chairperson of Melton's first conference in 1981.

Melton serves as the executive director of the IEEE Magnetics Society, where she facilitates the organization's numerous committee meetings worldwide. Melton and her Courtesy Associates teams have coordinated the Magnetics Society's annual conferences Magnetism and Magnetic Materials (MMM), Intermag and Joint MMM/Intermag.

Courtesy Associates is the Washington, D.C.-based conference, meeting and event management services subsidiary of SmithBucklin, the world's largest association management company.

A non-profit organization, the IEEE is the world's leading professional association for the advancement of technology. Through its global membership, the IEEE is a leading authority on areas ranging from aerospace systems, computers and telecommunications to biomedical engineering, electric power and consumer electronics, among others. The IEEE has more than 365,000 members in over 150 countries. Additional information is available at [www.ieee.org](http://www.ieee.org).

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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 – 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. For more information, please visit [www.courtesyassociates.com](http://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 210 trade associations, professional societies, technology user groups and government institutes/agencies. SmithBucklin's mission is to drive growth and build sustained competitiveness for client organizations. Founded in 1949, the company employs 630 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 \$200 million in annual client budgets from offices in Chicago, Washington, DC, St. Louis and Durham, NC. SmithBucklin is 100 percent employee owned. For more information, please visit [www.smithbucklin.com](http://www.smithbucklin.com) or call 1.800.539.9740.