

For Immediate Release

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Professional Convention Management Association Honors Courtesy Associates' Sheila Stampfli

WASHINGTON, D.C. – October 12, 2009 – Courtesy Associates, a global meeting, conference and special events firm owned by SmithBucklin, announced that Chief Business Development Officer Sheila Stampfli will be recognized by the Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA) Education Foundation as the 2009 Meeting Professional Honoree. Stampfli will receive the award at the PCMA Education Foundation Dinner Celebrating Professional Achievement on May 26, 2010 in Washington, D.C. The event recognizes professionals for their contributions to PCMA and the meetings and hospitality industry.

Stampfli, whose distinguished career in the meetings profession spans more than four decades, stepped down as Courtesy's president in January 2009. As chief business development officer she is now focused on leveraging her extensive experience and industry relationships to continue to develop Courtesy's new business opportunities. In 2007, Courtesy celebrated its 60th anniversary in the global meetings industry.

"Sheila has long been a respected and admired leader of the meetings community and we are so fortunate to enjoy Sheila's guidance and leadership at PCMA," said Deborah Sexton, PCMA President and CEO. "Sheila is most worthy to be recognized for lifetime achievement as the PCMA Education Foundation Meeting Professional Honoree."

The PCMA Education Foundation designs and creates programs to encourage the highest levels of professionalism in the meetings and conventions industry, while also supporting the mission of the PCMA through fundraising and grant giving. Founded in 1947, PCMA is a nonprofit international association of professionals in the meetings industry whose mission is to deliver breakthrough education and promote the value of professional convention management.

"It is a great honor to be recognized, as I have spent my career working not only to advance our clients' events but to enhance the prominence of the convention and events industry as a whole," Stampfli said. "I truly value my work with PCMA and the PCMA Education Foundation and am honored to have been a part of the organization for so many years."

A former chair of the Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA) Education Foundation, Stampfli also served on the foundation's executive committee and co-chaired the 2002,

2006 and 2007 PCMA Professional Achievement Dinners. She is currently chairwoman of Destination DC and is a former president, treasurer and secretary of the Washington Convention and Tourism Corporation (WCTC). She has also been a member of the board of directors of the Greater Washington Board of Trade, American Diabetes Association and Goodwill of Greater Washington, and is a member of the International Women's Forum.

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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. For more information, please visit www.courtesyassociates.com.

About SmithBucklin

SmithBucklin is the world's largest association management and professional services company. Founded in 1949, the company provides full-service management and outsourcing services to trade associations, professional societies, technology user groups, corporations, government institutes/agencies and other nonprofit organizations. SmithBucklin's mission is to drive growth for its client organizations and provide uncompromised stewardship for their long-term prosperity. SmithBucklin offices are located in Chicago, Washington, D.C., St. Louis and St. Paul, Minn. and the *SmithBucklin + MCI Worldwide Partnership* provides client organizations with seamless association and event management services from more than 40 offices throughout the world. The company is 100 percent employee owned. For more information, please visit www.smithbucklin.com or call 1-800-539-9740.