



FOR RELEASE: Immediate

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High Tech Public Affairs Veteran Named as Vice President, Government Affairs for the Americas

Jamie Hedlund to Lead ICANN's Government Relations Efforts in Americas

Washington, D.C... January 6, 2010... Jamie Hedlund, a seasoned high tech public affairs expert will lead ICANN's advocacy efforts in the U.S., Canada and Latin America.

Hedlund has international experience along with a successful history of representing technology organizations in their advocacy efforts before the U.S. Congress, and various executive branch agencies in Washington, D.C. Most recently he was the Vice President of Regulatory Affairs for the Consumer Electronics Association and prior to that he served as Director of Public Policy for Yahoo! Inc.

"Jamie Hedlund's value is not only that he gets the way Washington works, he will also be able to contribute to ICANN's important work throughout the Americas," said Rod Beckstrom, President and Chief Executive Officer of ICANN. "When you combine his background in advocacy with his Spanish and French skills, you have a loud and clear multi-lingual voice for the ICANN community."

Hedlund will be based in ICANN's Washington office when he assumes his new position on January 25.

"ICANN's global multi-stakeholder, bottom up model of governance is almost without equal," said Hedlund. "Many governments around the world recognize the importance of ICANN's role in coordinating the addressing system for the global Internet and to be ICANN's representative to some of those nations is an exceptional opportunity."

Hedlund will take over his job only a few months after ICANN signed an "Affirmation of Commitments," with the U.S. Commerce Department, which basically redefines ICANN's relationship with the U.S. government and makes the corporation more accountable to its global community. The agreement also reinforces the role of

the corporation's Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), which facilitates the input of governments from around the globe.

"This is one more important step towards fulfilling ICANN's mission of - *One world. One Internet. Everyone connected,*" said Beckstrom.

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To obtain a head shot photograph of Jamie Hedlund, go here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/icann/4248612125/>.

To read more about the Affirmation of Commitments, go here:

<http://www.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-30sep09-en.htm>

About ICANN:

To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn't have one global Internet. ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers. ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn't deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet's naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet. **For more information please visit: www.icann.org.**