



NEWS RELEASE

CNN, Space Systems/Loral, Boeing and Cisneros Group Executives to be Honored at SSPI's 2007 Future Leader Dinner; October 9 Event is Social Anchor of Satellite Week in NYC

New York City (October 3, 2007) – The Society of Satellite Professionals International (SSPI), the professional development society of the global satellite industry, will present its second annual "Promise" and "Mentor" Awards during its October 9 Future Leaders Dinner in New York City.

During the Dinner, SSPI will present a Promise Award to three young satellite professionals who have been identified by their employers as having the potential to play a leadership role in the industry. The 2007 Promise Awards will go to:

- Arnie Christianson, Operations Manager, CNN Satellites & Transmissions. Arnie has had a transformative impact on the way CNN gathers the news, developing a revolutionary digital newsgathering (DNG) system that has made possible both live and recorded video reporting at standard broadband speeds.
- Derek Edinger, Structural Analysis Manager, Space Systems/Loral. As a Structural Analysis Manager, Derek has built fast-growing teams to handle satellite structure loads definition and stress analysis, and he has a talent for putting cross-functional projects back on track when faced with challenges.
- Hayley McGuire, Business Development, Space & Intelligence Systems, Boeing Satellite Systems International. Hayley has worked as the System Test Procedure lead for all satellite products, as a Systems Engineer, and as the Chief of Staff to the President of Boeing Satellite Systems, helping to manage much of the day-to-day commercial and civil activities of the business.

SSPI will also present a Mentor Award to an executive who is recognized for his contributions to fostering young talent, both within his own organization and throughout the industry, and also for volunteering time and energy in support of the industry. The 2007 Mentor Award will go to Francesco Frenza, Senior Vice President, Corporate Engineering, Cisneros Group. Mr. Frenza, who started his career as a lab technician, is credited as the "father" of television development in Venezuela and much of Latin America. Working closely with both undergraduate and graduate engineering students on their thesis development, he has mentored a generation of young people who now hold senior management positions at Claxson Interactive Group, Harris, HBO Latin America, Scientific-Atlanta, Sony, Harmonics, DirecTV, and A&E Latin America.

Nominations for both awards came from employers and colleagues of the honorees throughout the industry; the final selection was made by SSPI's Awards Committee.

"Fifty years ago the Russians launched Sputnik and began the Satellite Era," said Robert Bell, SSPI Executive Director. "Today, the adventure of space has given way to the challenges of building and sustaining space-based businesses, to creating technologies to unlock even greater value from Earth orbit, and to making satellite communications accessible and affordable to a broader range of customers. But the more things change, the more they remain the same. Our future still depends on attracting the best and on nurturing their professional growth. The Future Leaders Dinner serves as an annual reminder of that vital fact."

Held at The Princeton Club in midtown Manhattan during Satellite Week in NYC, the Future Leaders Dinner provides a premier evening for business entertaining that sets the tone for a successful week of networking, education and business. It is produced by SSPI with the generous support of sponsors Tandberg Television, Lockheed Martin Commercial Space Systems, Space Systems/Loral, Willis Inspace, Paul Hastings, and Spacelsle.

Complete information on the Future Leaders Dinner, as well as order forms for tickets and tables are available at www.satfuture.com.

SSPI's professional development mission is underwritten by **AON**