Ericsson welcomes Oracle as first ERICA technology partner

- Winning entries in Global Non-Profit Awards Program to receive Oracle Web Platform and Tools

Ericsson announced today that Oracle Corporation has signed on as the first "Technology Partner" in the Ericsson Internet Community Award (ERICA). Oracle, the world's second largest software company, will become an ERICA partner effective immediately and help Ericsson expand the size and scope of the highly acclaimed program for year 2000.

ERICA is the first-ever global awards program designed to help non-profit organizations take advantage of the power of the Internet. At the 1999 presentation ceremony in New York today, non-profit groups from the United Kingdom and the United States shared the USD 250,000 inaugural year web development prize fund (see separate release).

"We are excited to have Oracle share our vision for ERICA and endorse its important mission," said Lars Stålberg, Senior Vice President, Ericsson Corporate Communications. "As the first ERICA technology partner, Oracle will play a major role in delivering to the ERICA winners technology solutions to enable them to realize their online community building dreams."

As part of Oracle's sponsorship, ERICA winners will receive Oracle's web platform and Web development technology.

"The biggest and best Web sites such as Yahoo, Excite and amazon.com use Oracle 8i, the first Java server providing 24/7 availability, and WebDB, the leading development tools for developing and deploying readily Web-enabled applications," said Dr. Juan F. Rada, Oracle vice president, public services, Europe, Middle-East & Africa. "Therefore we are happy to offer the ERICA winners the industry's best platform and tools so that their innovative community projects can provide valuable information and benefit endless numbers of citizens and users throughout the world, 24 hours per day."

Launched in January, the ERICA received 1,400 entries online and mailed in from non-profits around the world. Judging was done on the ERICA web site (www.ericsson.com/erica) by a panel of leading Internet industry executives. This year's winners will share USD 250,000 in Web development services to make their dream Internet projects a reality.

Ericsson is the leading provider in the new telecoms world, with communications solutions that combine telecom and datacom technologies with freedom of mobility for the user. With more than 100,000 employees in 140 countries, Ericsson simplifies communications for its customers – network operators, service providers, enterprises and consumers – the world over.

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