



For Release March 22, 2010 6:05 a.m. EDT

ION Releases Sixth Annual Report on Status of U.S. Women Directors and Executive Officers Report Profiles “Bleak Landscape Ripe for Change,” Features Interviews with 11 CEOs or Board Chairmen Supporting Diverse Leadership

Fort Washington, Penn. – The [InterOrganization Network](#) (ION) today released its sixth annual [report](#) on the status of women directors and executive officers. The report’s [findings](#) are consistent with those found in national studies: the low number of women directors and executive officers in U.S. public companies has varied little over the last few years. However, this year’s report also features interviews with 11 [“Guys Who Get It” – CEOs or board chairmen](#) of major U.S. public companies who understand the value of diversity at the top.

“These men, all highly influential business leaders, were chosen because they have demonstrated a clear understanding of the business case for diverse leadership. They are impressive role models for corporate executives looking to diversify their own leadership teams,” said ION President Rona Wells.

Research for the report was provided by ION’s 14 [member organizations](#) located across the U.S. The statistics go beyond examining the status of women in the largest U.S. public companies to include businesses that comprise the backbone of these regional economies.

“This year’s report provides a comprehensive picture of a bleak landscape ripe for change,” Wells said. “Too many companies remain mired in the past. Business leaders must look beyond their traditional networks and resources to build teams that include women and people of color.”

To accelerate this effort, ION is taking steps to assist companies interested in modernizing their nominating committee charters and board selection processes. In addition to publicizing the existence of a significant pool of accomplished women available and qualified to serve on corporate boards, ION provides women with a national voice and forum for exchanging ideas, connections and best practices.

The InterOrganization Network (www.IONwomen.org), is a national nonprofit organization representing approximately 10,000 women dedicated to increasing representation of women on for-profit boards and in executive suites. ION creates a national voice for its 14 regional member organizations to influence, build awareness and expand opportunities and connections. ION’s founding sponsor is KPMG LLP, the audit, tax and advisory firm and U.S. member firm of KPMG International Cooperative (“KPMG International”). KPMG International’s member firms have 137,000 professionals, including more than 7,600 partners in 144 countries.

Contacts:

ION President Rona Wells: (678) 366-4281, ronawells@mindspring.com

c3PR Principal Mar Junge: (408) 730-8506, mar@c3pr.com