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**Entrepreneurial &
Business Excellence
Hall of Fame**

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Entrepreneurial & Business Excellence Hall of Fame Announces 2008 Inductees

PERRYSBURG, OHIO-Nine regional businesses have received exciting news as The Entrepreneurial & Business Excellence Hall of Fame has announced its 2008 Class of Honorees. The companies that are being recognized for entrepreneurial effort, business excellence or innovation are: Cutting Edge Countertops, Perrysburg (Brad Burns, President, Brian Burns, Vice President and Jeff Erickson, Chief Operating Officer), Job 1USA, Toledo (Bruce Rumpf, CEO/President), Lathrop, Maumee (Thomas J. Manahan, Jr., President), P.T. Services, Tiffin (Mike Herbert, PT, President and Larry Adelsperger, Vice-President), Toledo Free Press, Toledo (Thomas F. Pounds, President/Publisher), U.S. Utility Contractor Company, Inc., Perrysburg (Kathryn Chlebowski, President and Stanley Chlebowski, General Manager), Uckele Health & Nutrition, Blissfield (Michael Uckele, CN, President/CEO), Willson Builders, Toledo (Bud Willson, CEO) and sponsor's selection: Xunlight Corporation, Toledo (Xunming Deng, PhD., President and CEO and Liwei Xu, PhD., Vice President/Finance and Administration). This year's panel of judges was Ellen Fruchtman, President, Fruchtman Marketing; Robert (Cam) Smith, Founder and CEO, Doral Steel; Mike McAlear, President, Service Spring Corp.; Milt Baker, Director, Dallas-Hamilton Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership at Bowling Green State University and John Harbal, President and CEO of Impact Products.

The Hall of Fame was founded by Gorillas & Gazelles LLC, an Ohio-based professional services firm, in partnership with Bowling Green State University and the University of Toledo to recognize and reward regional business success stories. Dan Boos, President and Managing Principal of Gorillas & Gazelles LLC serves as Chairman of the Hall of Fame's Executive Committee: "While there are many stories about the challenges faced by this region's business community, there are also many success stories. It is the desire of the Hall of Fame, its members and sponsors that through recognition and support, we can inspire a constancy of entrepreneurship, innovation and business excellence". Currently the Hall of Fame has one hundred and thirty-four members, a virtual who's who of the area's business success stories.

This year's event is presented by Rocket Ventures and Launch, Programs of The Regional Growth Partnership. "I could not be more thrilled with our relationship with our major sponsors. Over the past year, the individual and collaborative initiatives of Launch, Rocket Ventures, BGSU and UT have been a catalyst of innovation and entrepreneurship within the region. They too, deserve recognition for their efforts." Boos stated. Last year, the event was attended by approximately six hundred guests and a larger audience is expected this year.

Boos added: "There is a strong current of entrepreneurship and business excellence that is driven by innovation within our region. Innovation comes in many forms and whether it is break-through product development, best-practice work processes or cutting-edge technology, we are glad to say that each is well-represented within this year's class of recipients.

This year's induction ceremony will be held on November 20th at the Franciscan Theatre and Conference Center on the campus of Lourdes College in Sylvania, Ohio. A cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception will begin at 5:30 pm with the Induction Ceremony beginning at 7:30 pm. A dessert reception immediately follows the ceremony. For ticket information contact Gorillas & Gazelles at 419-874-0000 or visit www.ebehof.com.

