

National White Collar Crime Center Honors 13 with In-Kind Giving Award

MORGANTOWN, WV - November 8, 2001 - The National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) will present a formal In-Kind Giving Award to 13 companies whose contributions provided the Internet Fraud Complaint Center (IFCC) with programmatic and equipment support in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks. The NW3C Board of Directors will honor these companies during a recognition ceremony at its November 9 meeting at West Virginia University's Erickson Alumni Center.

"The NW3C wants to show our appreciation for these organizations on a national level to stress the value and impact they have made not only to the Internet Fraud Complaint Center, but also to our country," said Glen B. Gainer III, West Virginia State Auditor and NW3C Chairman. "We thank each of the companies for dedicating time and resources to the NW3C."

The companies recognized include: Advanced Technology Systems, Akamai Technologies, Armored Data Services, Inc., Compaq Computer Corporation, Computer Associates, DSD Laboratories/Backbone Security, Forensic Explorers, Hewlett-Packard, Hitachi Corporation, Lexis-Nexis, Lucent Technologies, ViON Corporation, and WorldCom.

The IFCC is a partnership between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the NW3C. Under the direction of the U.S. Department of Justice, the IFCC expanded its information intake and referral capability to serve as the single on-line portal for the public to report information regarding the September 11 terrorist events. The IFCC is receiving information which is being provided directly to the Operations Center at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C. in real-time. During the past month, the IFCC Web site has collected nearly 125,000 tips.

"The FBI applauds the strong level of support to the IFCC during this time of special need. Because of our partnership with the NW3C and its ability accept this assistance, we were able to implement a critical investigative tool in a matter of hours," said Dennis M. Lormel, Section Chief, Financial Crimes Section, Criminal Investigative Division of the FBI.

Consumers and businesses can also visit the IFCC Web site at www.ifccfbi.gov to report an Internet-based fraud victimization. Since May 2000, the IFCC Web site has provided a convenient and easy way to alert authorities of a violation. For law enforcement and regulatory agencies, the IFCC receives, reviews, and refers all fraud complaints. It also acts as data repository for complaints related to Internet fraud and uses the information to quantify fraud patterns. The IFCC Web site has received an average of 1,000 fraud complaints per week since its launch.

“Handling the increased volume of complaints would not have been possible without the unselfish and generous support of these companies,” said Richard L. Johnston, Director of the NW3C. “On behalf of our 1,100+ law enforcement member agencies, we are proud of the IFCC’s performance and grateful to both the public and private sector companies that have supported us in this updated mission.”

With regard to private sector support, special thanks from the NW3C is offered to Microsoft Corporation. Through donations of expertise and products to the NW3C, Microsoft has supported critical training and technical assistance programs for not only the IFCC, but for law enforcement agencies across the country.

About the Internet Fraud Complaint Center (IFCC)

The IFCC is a partnership between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the National White Collar Crime Center and began operating in May 2000. The IFCC Web site is located at www.ifccfbi.gov