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**“Driving Independence” theme of
2nd Annual Disability Matters Awards Hosted by GM**

Registration web site now open

DETROIT -- Springboard Consulting LLC and Work Life Matters magazine announced that the second annual Disabilities Matters Conference will be centered on the theme of ‘Driving Independence’. The national meeting will feature three panel discussions on how a variety of work/life, diversity and marketing initiatives can help increase the personal independence of individuals with special needs both in life and work.

The conference will take place on July 22, 2008 at General Motors global headquarters on the Detroit Riverfront. The event will culminate with a luncheon where the 2008 Disability Matters corporate winners in work/life, marketing and diversity will be honored. GM will also host an opening cocktail reception for all honorees, sponsors and attendees the evening of July 21.

“We are pleased that our conference will again highlight our nation’s corporate pioneers who are dedicating important resources and services to the special needs community,” says Lori Sokol, founder and publisher of Work Life Matters magazine. “We are especially grateful to General Motors, one of our 2007 honorees, for providing an outstanding venue for the 2008 event.”

"I like to think of these corporate pioneers as a winning team that is changing peoples perspectives on ‘Ability’ by becoming more inclusive of people with disabilities and their families – both as employees and consumers,” said Nadine Vogel, president of Springboard Consulting LLC.

In 2007, GM received its Disability Matters Award for its GM Mobility program, which makes automotive transportation easier and more accessible for the millions of persons

with disabilities and their caregivers. “GM is dedicated to improving people’s lives by making our vehicles accessible and attractive to customers with special needs with disabilities,” said John Gaydash, director of marketing for GM Fleet and Commercial Operations. “One of the key elements in maintaining independence is a person’s mobility.”

This meeting will also take place in conjunction with the national celebration of the 18th anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Conference registration is now available online at www.disabilitymattersawards.com. The site also has information on the Disability Matters Awards program and sponsorships.