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Press Release

SAN ANTONIO BUSINESSES AND SCHOOLS STEP UP FOR CLEAN AIR The 2007 Environmental Stewardship Awards Recipients

San Antonio February 1, 2008 – At the end of each year the San Antonio region recognizes and rewards local organizations and businesses that are actively helping to improve air quality. 2007 marked the end of a three-year period that determined whether the San Antonio region would meet federal air quality standards established to protect human health. Thanks to local efforts, the San Antonio Region received a passing grade. All award recipients played an important role in keeping our air clean by adopting voluntary pollution strategies. AACOG would like to recognize our 2007 winners and highlight some of the exceptional measures adopted by our local clean air partners.

Boeing Company- *Large Business First Place*

For conducting a Lean Energy Assessment (LEA) audit and adopting energy efficiency measures that provide long-term conservation benefits (including lighting fixture replacement, new efficient windows, programmable HVAC controls, and decommissioning of oversized water-cooled compressed air plant); for replacing 27 diesel powered aircraft air conditioners with new dual powered diesel or electric units and for operating an employee carpool/vanpool online search system called *Carpool Connection*.

Valero Energy Corporation- *Large Business Honorable Mention*

For installing energy efficient materials and equipment such as reflective roofs, efficient windows, motion sensors for automatic light shut-off, and a high efficiency cooling/heating system; for providing equipment/services to make it easier for employees to drive less, such as providing bike racks and showers for those biking to work, operating a vanpool program, and providing employees an on-site medical center, ATM machines, credit union, fitness center, and daycare.

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Capital Cement- *Small Business First Place*

For voluntarily installing a selective non-catalytic reduction control (SNCR) system on the company's dry kiln; for decommissioning a wet cement kiln reducing 1600 tons/year of air pollution emissions; and for installing phase II vapor recovery devices on vehicles.

AKUTABOVE- *Small Business Honorable Mention*

For using high-economy and alternative technology vehicles; for using alternative fuels (propane) 95% of the time; and for adopting idle reduction practices and energy conservation measures for their employees.

North East Independent School District- *Education First Place*

For organizing the "Go Kids Challenge" events which encourage kids to ride their bikes or walk; for adopting energy savings measures and installing energy savings equipment (temperature control devices, compact fluorescent bulbs etc); and for adopting a school bus no-idling policy.

Camelot Elementary School-*Education Honorable Mention*

For serving as San Antonio's first school to adopt the Green Patrol Program (vehicle anti-idling program) and for reducing the number of parents idling their vehicle engines at student drop-off/pick-up areas by 70% in the first year.

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If you'd like more information about this topic, photographs of the awards ceremony, or to schedule an interview, please call Amber Mayne at 210/362-5213 or email Amber at amayne@aacog.com.