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**Women Presidents' Educational Organization Welcomes
Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC As New Corporate Sponsor**
Sponsorship Gives Women Business Owners Increased Access

New York, NY, January 28, 2008 - The Women Presidents' Educational Organization (WPEO), a regional affiliate of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC), announced a new regional corporate sponsorship with the national law firm of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC. The firm will sponsor WPEO events and initiatives in the New York and Washington, D.C. regions, geared at giving local women's business enterprises (WBEs) access to continuing education forums and networking opportunities.

"Eckert Seamans is thrilled to support the efforts of the WPEO. We are committed to aiding in their mission of promoting supplier diversity and opening doors for WBEs in the regions in which we serve, and look forward to further developing the partnership to increase the visibility of this dynamic group of women," said Alicia Kabiri, a partner at the firm.

Through the WPEO, local women's business enterprises (WBEs) can apply for the national Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) certification and achieve access to Fortune 1000 supplier diversity programs, which can ultimately lead to new business for the entrepreneurs.

"According to the Center for Women's Business Research, nearly 10.4 million firms are 50% or more owned by women, employing more than 12.8 million people, and generating \$1.9 trillion in sales. This is a resource that Fortune 1000 companies can not afford to ignore," said Marsha Firestone, Ph.D., president and founder of the Women Presidents' Educational Organization. "We are proud that the WPEO is able to facilitate new relationships between WBEs and our corporate sponsors."

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About the WPEO

WPEO is a regional affiliate of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC), the nation's leading advocate of women-owned businesses and third party certification organization. The mission of the WPEO is to increase access to business

opportunities for WBEs. Our programs develop skills and knowledge for WBEs, advocate in the public and private sectors, foster relationships between WBEs, corporations and the government, and provide certification services. WPEO provides full service third party certification to women entrepreneurs in the New York and D.C regions. For more information about the WPEO, including upcoming events and membership, call (212) 688-4144 or visit the website www.wpeo.us

About Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC

Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC (www.eckertseamans.com), a national law firm with ten offices throughout the eastern United States, provides a full range of legal services nationwide to businesses of all sizes, institutions, municipalities, colleges and universities, government agencies and individuals. Its practice areas encompass litigation, including mass tort and products liability litigation, corporate and business law, intellectual property law, labor and employment relations, aviation law, bankruptcy and restructuring, employee benefits, environmental law, construction law, municipal finance, real estate, and tax and estate law. Eckert Seamans has offices in Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Philadelphia, West Chester and Southpointe, Pennsylvania; Wilmington, Delaware; Morgantown, West Virginia; Boston, Massachusetts, Washington, D.C. and White Plains, New York.