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**Women Presidents' Educational Organization Welcomes
sanofi aventis As New Corporate Sponsor**
Sponsorship Gives Women Business Owners Increased Access

New York, NY, February 15, 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 one of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies, sanofi aventis. The company will sponsor WPEO events and initiatives in the New York regions, geared at giving local women's business enterprises (WBEs) access to continuing education forums and networking opportunities.

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 sanofi-aventis

Sanofi-aventis, a leading global pharmaceutical company, discovers, develops and distributes therapeutic solutions to improve the lives of everyone. Sanofi-aventis is listed in Paris (EURONEXT : SAN) and in New York (NYSE : SNY).

