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## **AMERICAN EXPRESS BUSINESS TRAVEL WINS NATIONAL AWARD FOR DEVELOPING THE FIRST ECOMMERCE MARKETPLACE FOR BUSINESS TRAVEL SERVICES**

-- AXIOM Receives 2007 American Business “Stevie” Award for Best New Product or Service in Business Services Category --

**NEW YORK, NY – June 11, 2007** – American Express Business Travel, a global industry leader in business travel management, today announced that its American Express Intelligent Online Marketplace (AXIOM) has been selected as Best New Product or Service in the business services category for the 2007 American Business “Stevie” Awards. Powered by Calif.-based, Rearden Commerce, Inc., AXIOM helps business travelers purchase traditional travel (air, hotel, car rental) and a growing list of non-traditional business services such as ground transportation, dining, entertainment and package shipping from a Web-based commerce network. The award honors the Company for introducing one of this year’s most innovative and ground-breaking business products in the marketplace.

Hailed as “the business world’s own Oscars” (*New York Post*), The American Business Awards is the only national, all-encompassing awards program that commends great performances in business. Honoring companies of all sizes and the people behind them, the Stevies highlight outstanding performances in the workplace. More than 2,000 entries from companies of all sizes and in virtually every industry were submitted for consideration in more than 40 categories, including Best New Product or Service.

Bringing together services from more than 135,000 suppliers, AXIOM provides a one-stop shop where employees can purchase and manage their expenses for standard travel arrangements and other travel and entertainment (T&E) services. Further, an estimated 40 percent or more of T&E and other employee services are purchased outside preferred vendor contracts. AXIOM allows companies to gain visibility and control over unmanaged T&E expenses and encourages employees to buy within preferred vendor contracts. Since its launch in November 2006, more than 400 clients have signed on for the solution.

“Being named a winner is a significant achievement for the AXIOM solution and American Express Business Travel as a whole,” said Andrew McGraw, senior vice president and general manager for North American business travel. “As a company, we are committed to providing our clients the most advanced technologies which allow for greater control over travel and

entertainment spend. This recognition underscores the growing need for expanded services in business travel, and further adds to our growing list of industry accolades.”

In March, Priyan Fernando, executive vice president and chief operating officer, American Express Business Travel was awarded the distinguished *Supply and Demand Chain Executive* Pros to Know Award for leading the Company in the strategic development of AXIOM. The Pros to Know Award highlights supply chain executives who are driving the transformation initiatives and achieving the successes that are helping supply chain earn recognition as a true strategic partner to business.

In addition, American Express Chairman and CEO Kenneth Chenault presented the AXIOM launch team the American Express 2006 Chairman’s Award for Innovation.

For more information regarding AXIOM, please visit us at [www.americanexpress.com/axiom](http://www.americanexpress.com/axiom)

## **About American Express Business Travel**

American Express Business Travel ([www.americanexpress.com/businesstravel](http://www.americanexpress.com/businesstravel)), a division of the American Express Company, is dedicated to helping its clients realize the greatest possible value from their investment in travel through increased cost savings, outstanding customer service and greater spend control. For small businesses, medium-sized enterprises and multinational corporations, American Express Business Travel provides a combination of industry-leading booking technology, travel management consulting expertise, strategic sourcing and supplier negotiation support, and customer service available online and offline, around the world.

American Express operates one of the world's largest travel agency networks with over 2,200 travel service locations in over 140 countries and territories worldwide. The Company processed \$21.8 billion in global travel sales in 2006.

American Express Company ([www.americanexpress.com](http://www.americanexpress.com)) is a diversified worldwide travel, financial and network services company founded in 1850. It is a world leader in charge and credit cards, Travelers Cheques, travel, business services and international banking.

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