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ACOM ANNOUNCES CONVENTION SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Donald S. Freeman, Jr. ACOM Conference Scholarship: "Supporting Continued Excellence in Convention Services"

PRINCETON JUNCTION, NJ – November 7, 2007 – The Association for Convention Operations Management (ACOM), an organization dedicated to advancing the practice of convention services management in the meetings industry, has announced a new scholarship program sponsored by Freeman, North America's leading service contractor.

In an effort to support students studying in the hospitality management field, the Donald S. Freeman, Jr. ACOM Conference Scholarship will provide funding for a student to attend the ACOM Annual Conference on January 11-13, 2008 at the Westin Seattle. The student will gain a real-world perspective on the issues facing convention services managers (CSMs) today, as well as learn from conference sessions and networking opportunities with CSMs from across the U.S. and Canada. Additionally, representatives from Freeman will mentor the student before, during and after the conference.

"The scholarship recipient will see first-hand the inner workings of a conference, including meeting planner and venue interactions, room set-ups, audio-visual and staging, registration procedures, pre-convention meetings, and so much more that a classroom cannot provide," said Norman Ford, ACOM president. "Since ACOM is continually dedicated to education, we want to help future convention services leaders get hands-on experience at our conference."

Eric Blanc, national sales manager at Freeman, and current board member of ACOM, said, "Our company, and our leadership, have always valued education and professional development as critical components to our industry's success and long-term growth. We are very pleased to be able to support this new initiative by ACOM to provide scholarship funding, and even more honored that the scholarship fund will be named after our company's Chairman and CEO, Don Freeman."

The student will be selected by a panel of ACOM members, and will attend the conference on a complimentary basis; travel reimbursement is included within set parameters. The deadline for all application submissions is December 5, 2007. Students interested in submitting an application can find more information on the ACOM website, www.acomonline.org.

For more information about ACOM and the upcoming conference, contact Lynn McCullough at (609) 799-3712 or e-mail info@acomonline.org.

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About ACOM

The Association for Convention Operations Management (ACOM) was founded and incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in 1988 by William H. Just, CAE, CMP and is dedicated to advancing the practice of convention services management in the meetings industry, and to preparing Convention Service Management professionals for their critical role in the growth and success of their organizations. ACOM members hold many positions in convention and visitor bureaus, convention centers, conference centers, hotels and resorts including: convention service managers, housing managers, operations managers, event service coordinators, directors of convention/trade shows, catering managers and directors, facility managers, attraction/entertainment facilities, audio visual companies and decorator management companies. For more information, visit www.acomonline.org.

About Freeman

Freeman is the world's leading provider of integrated services for face-to-face marketing events, including expositions, conventions, corporate events, and exhibits. The company is headquartered in Dallas, Texas and has offices in 41 cities across North America. In 2006, Freeman produced over 3,900 expositions, including 100 of the largest 200 U.S. trade shows, and over 10,000 other events worldwide. Founded in 1927, the company remains privately held by the Freeman family as well as the full-time employee owners through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP).