



Telcoa and Stargazer to Provide Online Emergency Preparedness Tools



Stargazer ReadyLinks for Families are Free

Stargazer Smart Web Portals Are Being
Used by Government Agencies

December 8, 2005

Contacts:

Chuck Wilsker – Telcoa
(202) 266-0046 x. 101
Chuck@telcoa.org

Art Bushkin – Stargazer
(703) 934-6681
ArtBushkin@Stargazer.org

Washington, DC – The Telework Coalition (Telcoa; www.Telcoa.org) and the Stargazer Foundation (www.Stargazer.org) have created a partnership to provide Stargazer's award-winning Emergency Preparedness services to Telcoa members.

Stargazer's ReadyLinks provide family members with a safe place online to post and share messages, telephone numbers, maps, and photos, and to find critical news and information. ReadyLinks are available free of charge.

Stargazer's Smart Web Portals for Emergency Preparedness are used in the National Capitol Region, as well as throughout the nation. The portals utilize IBM's most advanced secure, online communications and collaboration tools, and provide the ability to share information in real time, access critical resources, and link people across jurisdictional and organizational boundaries. The Stargazer Foundation received the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' 2004 Regional Partnership Award for having contributed the most to the region in 2004.

“Stargazer is pleased that Telcoa will help distribute our emergency preparedness and public safety tools,” said Art Bushkin, Chairman and CEO of the Stargazer Foundation. “Every day, we read about the lack of communications and coordination in emergency situations, from 9/11 to Katrina. Stargazer provides individuals and organizations with proven, reliable, secure communications solutions that are available right now, anywhere, anytime.”

“Telcoa is proud to provide its members with access to these essential emergency preparedness services,” said Chuck Wilsker, President, CEO, and Co-founder of The Telework Coalition. “Stargazer's capabilities have already proven their value in the Nation's Capitol, and they are truly appropriate for our members, who would certainly be working in dispersed locations during any possible emergency.”

The Stargazer Foundation (www.Stargazer.org) is a nonprofit public charity that leverages a one-time investment in technology to benefit individuals, organizations, governments, and communities.

The Telework Coalition (Telcoa; www.Telcoa.org) is a nonprofit association. Telcoa enables Virtual, Mobile, and Distributed Work through Education, Technology, and Legislation. Telcoa brings together a diverse array of organizations, companies, and individuals.