



New York Chapter and William Walkowiak Honored at NIRI's National Conference

NIRI-NY Wins Awards for Innovative Programming as Walkowiak Recognized for Leadership

New York, NY – September 24, 2007 – The New York Chapter (NIRI-NY) of the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI) announced today that it received three awards highlighting innovative programming at the NIRI Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida from June 3-6, 2007.

Receiving the awards for the New York Chapter was: Hulus Alpay, President NIRI-NY, William (Bill) Walkowiak, former President NIRI-NY, and Nick Rolli, Member, NIRI-NY Board of Directors. The awards included the “Chairman Award,” the “Best External Affairs” (Large Chapter) and “Best Special Event” (Large Chapter).

The “Chairman Award” was granted for NIRI-NY’s May 3rd event titled: The International Outlook. The event featured Germany’s leading economist, Professor Norbert Walter, who discussed the roles the world economy and globalization will play in U.S. business and investment for the 2007 year. The award for “Best External Affairs” distinguished NIRI-NY as the chapter which had done the most to cultivate relationships between NIRI and other external organizations, and in so doing, increase the prominence and credibility of investor relations and NIRI within the local financial community. “Best Special Event” was awarded for NIRI-NY’s collaborative effort with the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) and the Shareholder Services Association (SSA). The collaboration resulted in a panel discussion on the media’s relationship with investor relations professionals, featuring Joe Nocera, business columnist, The New York Times, Neal S. Lipschutz, Managing Editor, Dow Jones Newswires Charles Gasparino, Commentator, CNBC.

“These awards are a testament to the dedication, hard work, and innovation of both the New York Board of Directors and all the members of NIRI-NY who volunteered their time to make our programs and events possible,” said Hulus Alpay, Senior Vice-President Makovsky & Company, and President of NIRI-NY.

In addition to the awards distinguishing the New York Chapter, William (Bill) Walkowiak, former president and longtime member of NIRI-NY received the “Individual Leadership Award” for the New York Chapter.

“Bill’s passion for Investor Relations, unending commitment to his colleagues, and unique mix of communications, finance and corporate expertise has made him an invaluable member of NIRI-NY for over 12 years,” stated Alpay. “The Individual Leadership Award recognizes not only Bill’s unparalleled contributions to NIRI-NY, but also the profound strides he has made in elevating the importance and awareness of the investor relations profession within the institutional investment community.”

About NIRI-NY

Founded in 1970, NIRI New York is the oldest and largest chapter of the world's leading professional organization for investor relations practitioners. The efforts of the chapter are driven by these primary goals: to educate and enlighten members through innovative and value-added programs and activities; to provide our members with opportunities to network, thus promoting an ongoing exchange of ideas; to give our members continuing insight into IR trends and issues; and to develop investor relations professionals who are driving IR as a true strategic management function. For more information, please visit the NIRI NY website at www.niriny.org

Contact: Hank Boerner
VP Communications, NIRI-NY
516.741.8877 extension 19
hank@hankboerner.com