Dear Friends and Members of the Patent Information Community:

We are very pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Lucy Akers as the new Chair of the International Selection Board for the International Patent Information Award.

Ms. Akers assumes this appointment for the upcoming year as nominations are considered for the IPI-Award to be made in 2010. In her new capacity, Ms. Akers will work with the International Selection Board, comprised of a team of well-known and eminent information professionals, to oversee and coordinate the selection process.

The members of the International Selection Board for 2010 are: Ms. Lucy Akers (Chair); Dr. Gerhard Fischer; Mr. Koh Ishii; Mr. Aalt van de Kuilen; Dr. Thomas Lorenz; Ms. Minoo Philipp; Ms. Edlyn Simmons; Ms. Cynthia Barcelon Yang; Mr. Roy Zimmermann; Mr. Ford Khorsandian.

"It is an honor to serve as the Chair of the Selection Board for the IPI Award," says Ms. Akers. "I am very much looking forward to working with the eminent members of the Board and continue the tradition of recognizing the most accomplished individuals in the patent information profession."

Lucy Teixeira Akers is a U.S. Patent Agent with over 25 years of experience in the information field. She has formerly held patent information positions at Shell and ExxonMobil, and is currently a Senior Patent Analyst with Bristol-Myers Squibb. From 2000-2004, Ms. Akers was Chair of the Patent Information Users Group, whose membership grew over 20% during her term. Her leadership and work with the PIUG and connections with other professional organizations, such as with the Patent and Trademark Group in the UK, and with WON in the Netherlands, makes her a recognized international figure in the patent information world, particularly for her active role in patent information development, training and education.

Ms. Akers is the second ever Chair of the IPI-Award and takes over from Dr. Ian Sinclair, who has served as Chair of the Selection Board for 10 years since the Award's inception. On behalf of everyone who has been involved in the IPI-Award in the past years, we would like to whole-heartedly thank Dr. Sinclair for his dedication to the Award and for his incredible leadership. Dr. Sinclair remains very connected in the information industry through his hands-on involvement with the International Patent Information Conference & Exposition (http://www.IPI-ConfEx.com) and Pharma-Bio-Med conference (http://www.pharma-bio-med.com) held in Europe.

IPI-Award Background

The prestigious International Patent Information (IPI) Award was established to honor the great professionals of the patent information industry worldwide. Now in its eleventh year, the IPI-Award is aimed at recognizing individual contributions towards the advancement of patent information and to the patent information world in general, and is not limited to producers and service providers. The Award, established and sponsored by Technology & Patent Research, TPR International, consists of a plaque and an honorarium of $3000 or other currency equivalent.

Nominations for the IPI-Award 2010 are being reviewed by the International Selection Board and the name of the forthcoming IPI-Award recipient will be announced in the coming Spring at IPI-ConfEx, being held in Lisbon, Portugal, March 7-10, 2010.

For details of past recipients, speeches, photographs, etc., visit the Award website at http://www.IPI-Award.com

For questions, please contact the IPI-Award Sponsors: Trudi Jones, Technology & Patent Research, TPR International, Inc.; Trudi@TPRInternational.com; http://www.TPRinternational.com; Tel: +1 (858) 592 9084; Fax: +1 (858) 592 0045

Best regards,
Trudi Jones

On behalf of
The International Patent Information (IPI) Organization