



Network Solutions And LookSmart Enter Strategic Alliance

Companies to Offer Suite of Web Site-Building Tools

Herndon, Va. - April 14, 1999 - Network Solutions, Inc., the world leader in Web address registration, and LookSmartSM, the Internet's largest directory of quality Web sites, today announced a strategic alliance to offer domain name registration services and Web site-enhancing tools to businesses.

As part of the agreement, businesses will be able to access Network Solutions' domain name registration and other services, including its Affiliate Program, from LookSmart's Web services area. Network Solutions' customers will be able to download LookSmart's free suite of site-maker tools, including its industry-leading Web directory, from a co-branded Web site accessible from Network Solutions' dot com toolkitTM resource center. An advertising and direct marketing campaign will be launched to raise awareness about the companies' one-stop shopping capabilities.

"LookSmart is a young, aggressive company that is very well known by key industry players" said Doug Wolford, Network Solutions' senior vice president, marketing and sales. "Its partnerships with leading Internet sites will help extend Network Solutions' services beyond our current reach."

"Network Solutions is a premier brand among Web masters and we're excited to work with them to distribute our site-building products," said Evan Thornley, co-founder and CEO of LookSmart. "This agreement gives us unparalleled access to Web site owners and tremendous opportunities to distribute our directory to this audience."

Network Solutions provides online domain name registration in five easy steps. In addition to registration services, Network Solutions also offer the dot com mailTM personal, portable email service and the dot com biz cardTM service, designed to provide personalized business solutions that enhance online identity. These services are also available through Network Solutions' Affiliate Program.

The agreement is part of LookSmart's unique distribution strategy that focuses on displaying its Web directory on the screens of as many users as possible through syndication and licensing agreements with other Web sites and properties, partnerships with ISPs and viral marketing. In addition to its directory, LookSmart currently provides free Web services including hit counters, chat rooms and message boards, to thousands of Webmasters. The company currently distributes its directory of more than 1,000,000 Web site listings to top Web properties including MSN, Netscape, HotBot, @Home, AltaVista and Bluemountainarts.com.

About LookSmart

LookSmart, a leading Web directory and search tool and top 25 Web property, creates and maintains the largest editorially reviewed directory of Web sites on the World Wide Web. LookSmart's directory is distributed through multiple channels, including a global network of ISPs, major Web sites, portals and viral marketing. Through its partnership with Cox Interactive Media, LookSmart also offers the largest collection of quality local Web content in more than 65 U.S. markets. The company is headquartered in San Francisco and can be contacted at (415) 597-4850. To see why more and more partners, advertisers and consumers are turning to LookSmart, visit them at www.looksmart.com

About Network Solutions

Founded in 1979, Network Solutions, Inc. (NASDAQ: NSOL) pioneered the development of registering Web addresses ending in .com, .net, .org and edu. Network Solutions also provides Internet Technology Services that assist large commercial organizations in the evolution and management of their Internet technologies. For more information, see www.networksolutions.com Web site. Network Solutions registers the majority of Web addresses through agreements with Internet companies around the globe, including more than 70 domestic and almost 100 international companies in its Premier program. Network Solutions has created value-added small business solutions through agreements with leading companies such as American Express (NYSE: AXP). Through its Alliance Program, Network Solutions works closely with EarthLink\ (NASDAQ: ELNK), MindSpring Enterprises, Inc. (NASDAQ: MSPG), Interliant, Inc. (formerly Sage Networks, Inc.) and ValueWeb (NASDAQ: ESPI). Network Solutions has also entered into marketing agreements with companies including Yahoo! Inc. (NASDAQ: YHOO) and Netscape Communications Corporation.

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Statements in this announcement other than historical data and information constitute forward looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those stated or implied by such forward-looking statements. The potential risks and uncertainties include, among others, uncertainty of Internet governance and regulation, increased competition in the domain name registration business, customer acceptance of new products and services offered by the company in addition to or as enhancements of its registration services, risks associated with the company's international business, uncertainty of future revenue and profitability and fluctuations in its quarterly operating results. More information about potential factors that could affect the company's business and financial results is included in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, especially in the company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed on January 4, 1999, as amended, Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1998 and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the periods ended March 31, 1998, June 30, 1998 and September 30, 1998.