

Contact: Susan Carrier, Outreach Coordinator
Geltz Communications
(626) 568-8412 scarrier@geltzcomm.com

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**Three SBEA Customers Receive National Award from
ENERGY STAR for Small Business**

PASADENA, CA, December 2006: Three small business customers of the Small Business Energy Alliance (SBEA) received national recognition for their energy-saving efforts. The three California businesses were among only nine small businesses nationwide that were selected to receive the 2005 ENERGY STAR Small Business Network Award. The annual national ENERGY STAR award, a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy, honors businesses for exemplary pollution prevention and stewardship of the environment via energy efficiency.

The three SBEA customers who received the national award are Arrowhead Credit Union of Southern California; Harmony Farm Supply and Nursery of Sebastopol; and World of Carpets of Santa Rosa. All three businesses took advantage of public goods funding from the SBEA to upgrade to energy-efficient lighting, tune up air conditioner systems, or install programmable thermostats.

The SBEA helps hard-to-reach small businesses in 11 California counties save energy. The program provides education, free energy audits and up to 75 percent funding to upgrade lighting, install programmable thermostats or tune up refrigeration and air conditioning systems. The program is funded by California ratepayers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

Pasadena-based Geltz Communications nominated the three winning small businesses on behalf of the SBEA and provides marketing management and outreach for the program. Geltz Communications specializes in marketing and sales communications for the energy, water and environmental industries.

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