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For Immediate Release

Region's Top CEO Named at the 7th CNBC Asia Business Leaders Awards

Singapore, 27 November, 2008 – CNBC, First in Business Worldwide, pioneered the Business Leader Awards worldwide, to acknowledge exceptional CEOs globally. The awards are held annually in the respective regions of the United States, Europe, and Asia. Recipients of the awards are stellar individuals, who are visionaries behind today's outstanding businesses. They epitomize core values of a successful leader - strength, innovation, ingenuity, knowledge and foresight – values that are imperative to carving out powerful businesses in the global economy.

CNBC is delighted to announce the winners of the 7th CNBC Asia Business Leaders Awards.

The **Asia Business Leader of the Year** is awarded to **Mr. Hirokazu Yoshikawa** of **Dowa Holdings** for capitalizing on global trends to inspire growth for his company. Dowa has a long history of dealing with metals, from the earliest days when it was strictly a mining company up to its present broad-scale operations, including the procurement of both raw and recycled materials. It has spread out from its roots in Japan, becoming a multinational company spanning the globe. Mr. Yoshikawa has been instrumental in leading Dowa through two phases of growth since 2000, and is in the midst of spearheading a third phase that will culminate in 2009. With each phase of the strategic moves made under Mr. Yoshikawa's leadership, Dowa has experienced transformation that allows for higher levels of performance. The attention to technological capabilities and high-quality management skills has helped the company maximize its collective strength, making it a leading business enterprise. Mr. Yoshikawa's clear presentation of a strategic direction for the whole company provides executive officers in Dowa a blueprint for a successful growth strategy. Mr. Yoshikawa's open and inclusive communication with his staff has helped forge a team that works together for the continued success of Dowa Holdings.

The other 7th CNBC ABLA winners are:

Asia Innovator of the Year – **Mr. Tan Lay Koon** of **STATS ChipPAC** for his leadership in an organization that has innovation at its very core.

Asia Talent Management of the Year – **Mr. S. Ramadorai** of **Tata Consultancy Services** for his personal involvement in supporting and nurturing leadership within the company.

Corporate Social Responsibility Award - **Mr. Adirek Sripratak** of **CP Foods** for his ability to translate the company's success into benefits for the community.

The Thailand Business Leader of the Year Award - **Dr. Viroj Mavichak** of **Thai Oil** whose vision and management abilities have helped steer his company successfully in not only in Thailand but also in the global marketplace.

The Asia's Viewers Choice Award - **Simon Lin** is the **Chairman and CEO** of **Wistron Corporation**

"Being First in Business Worldwide, CNBC takes pride in identifying premier business leaders in the region and celebrating their achievements through the CNBC Asia Business Leader Awards," said **Jeremy Pink, President and Managing Director, CNBC Asia Pacific**. "We would like to congratulate all the winners and finalists who have made it after a stringent elimination process of 8,000 companies across the region, by our partners University of Chicago Booth School of Business and Development Dimensions International. That is an achievement in itself."

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7th Asia Business Leader Awards is hosted by

CNBC Asia Pacific

CNBC Asia Pacific is uniquely positioned to speak to viewers from across the region. Headquartered in Singapore, the network provides nine and a half hours of live Asia-produced programming, which is complemented with coverage of live market action from Europe and the US. CNBC Asia Pacific's channels, which include CNBC Asia, CNBC-TV18 (India), CNBC Pakistan, Nikkei-CNBC (Japan) are available in more than 21 countries across the Asia Pacific region. CNBC also has a strategic alliance with Shanghai Media Group, which wholly owns a subsidiary, China Business Network, and a partnership with Digital Chosun, part of the Chosun group of companies, the biggest media conglomerate in South Korea. The channels are distributed via satellite, cable and terrestrial broadcast networks, as well as broadband. CNBC content is also distributed on the 3G platform through selective markets. For more information, please visit us at www.asia.cnbc.com.

ABOUT CNBC ASIA BUSINESS LEADER AWARDS ("CNBC ABLA")

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The CNBC ABLA is our way to contribute to the development of the business community in Asia. We feel that exceptional regional business leaders should be saluted for what they have accomplished, and the Asian business community should be able to learn valuable lessons from them.

The CNBC ABLA recognizes these outstanding individuals, and is a platform in which they are able to engage with the business community at large.

Previous CNBC Asia Business Leader Award winners include:

Harish Manwani	CEO, Unilever, Asia / Africa	(2007)
Anand G. Mahindra	Vice Chairman & Managing Director, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd	(2006)
Chen Feng	President, Hainan Airlines Company Limited (China)	(2005)
Gerardo Ablaza Jr	CEO, Globe Telecom Inc (Philippines)	(2004)
S. Ramadorai	CEO, Tata Consultancy Services (India)	(2002)
KV Kamath	CEO, MD, ICICI Ltd (India)	(2001)

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