The Blue Sage Group Perfecting Profitability



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THE BLUE SAGE GROUP OFFERS SOX COMPLIANCE TOOLS IN MICROSOFT ENVIRONMENT

Innovative and Cost-Effective Solution for Compliance Programs, Quick to Install, Easy to Use

CANTON, MASSACHUSETTS – February 13, 2006 – The Blue Sage Group (TBSG) announces it has released its newest product, Torch Control, a ready-to-use Sarbanes-Oxley Internal Control software tool that combines content with a powerful document manager and audit and reporting tools which enable companies to reduce the cost of compliance. Initial beta phase testing has been completed and the product is now available.

Torch Control provides a sustainable, cost-effective SOX 302 / 404 compliance solution, especially for small and mid-sized companies. The program provides an easy to use toolkit that automates many 302 / 404 requirements. Torch Control's compliance software is flexible and can be tailored for any business and implemented within a short, three to four week timetable.

"This simple but comprehensive software allows companies to manage Sarbanes-Oxley compliance programs within a completely accessible Microsoft environment," said Diane Wolff, President, TBSG. "In addition, Torch Control has a 'rapid stream' feature to import pre-existing documentation into the software and allows reporting in Microsoft Excel."

The program is rich in content with many product features yet is simple to install and use. The combination of content with software enables the user to perform the routine tasks of updating, evaluating, monitoring, reporting and testing internal controls in a more time-efficient and operationally effective manner. The Torch Control's resources provide users with best practice examples, training materials, user guides and links to external resources. The software contains pre-loaded templates, forms and documentation that are tailored to a company's requirements.

Torch Control has been designed by financial reporting experts and incorporates the COSO framework in a design that can be updated to accommodate changes to the company, market and regulations. Additional features include "change over time" that ensures history remains intact while allowing users the ability to document current and / or future events. The built in audit trail enables companies to track and report these changes.

"Continuing scandals in public, private and not for profit companies regarding corporate responsibility have created a need for enhanced governance and ethics in order to restore the confidence of customers, employees and investors," said Wolff. "However, the high cost of compliance has detracted from the benefits of documenting, evaluating and monitoring business controls."

"Many companies have taken time to re-examine their corporate governance and public companies in particular have been busy implementing Sarbanes-Oxley sections 302 / 404 programs. Tight deadlines and lack of detailed instructions forced many companies to quickly implement programs without the opportunity to integrate their compliance programs into their day to day business operations," said Wolff. "Furthermore, many companies have not leveraged compliance as an opportunity to increase operational excellence and / or improve financial performance."

The recent findings of the SEC's Advisory Committee on Smaller Public Companies (ACSPC) indicate that cost and efforts to implement 404 programs far exceeded original SEC estimates of \$91,000 per company. Furthermore, the committee found a disproportionate cost to revenue ratio for smaller companies. The ACSPC is requesting that the SEC, PCAOB and COSO re-examine 404 compliance rules and standards, especially for companies that qualify as small or microcap. However, the SEC has yet to make any final determination on rule changes.

Torch Control software can help reduce the initial and ongoing cost of compliance via automation which minimizes labor requirements and facilitates reporting and information maintenance. "Torch Control allows the CEO / CFO to know where their business is today – providing the most accurate, relevant and current information available, within an easily accessible format," said Wolff.

Available solutions range from simple, single instance tools to comprehensive suites designed to support complex organizations. Each solution has been designed to allow quick and easy implementation, as well as low-overhead in use and administration. Torch Control can be installed quickly and can be tailored and loaded with pre-existing control data in one to four weeks.

Torch Control has been designed to dramatically reduce the cost of 404 and 302 compliance by incorporating these program elements and provide smaller companies with a solution that fits their business needs.

About The Blue Sage Group

The Blue Sage Group is a business consultancy that delivers corporate governance and performance management solutions. The firm is comprised of seasoned business professionals with experience in both private and public companies with domestic and international operations. Their expertise spans multiple industries including high technology, telecommunications, manufacturing, professional services, healthcare and life sciences. Their team is comprised of former executives with financial, operational and IT expertise. The governance team includes internal auditors, CIA's, CPAs and CISA's.

The Blue Sage Group focuses on three key elements of informational excellence: governance, performance management, and financial guidance.

About Diane Wolff, President, The Blue Sage Group

Wolff is a senior financial executive with a proven track record of increasing profitability in Fortune 1000 companies by creating the tools and processes that allow senior management to quickly gage the financial impact of operational initiatives and actions. In her career, Wolff created infrastructures for small ventures that enabled them to handle explosive growth, and restructured mature companies to allow them to operate efficiently as streamlined, low cost operations. In 2002 in the wake of the government's implementation of Sarbanes-Oxley regulations, Wolff found that companies were struggling to comply with a newly defined set of compliance rules, with runaway budgets. In her previous position as Vice President of Finance for Genuity, a leading provider of managed Internet services, Wolff grew revenue from \$150 Million to \$750 Million in three years, while improving gross margins by 100% in that three-year period.