NASSCOM ANNOUNCES FINDINGS OF “EXCITING EMERGING COMPANIES TO WORK FOR” SURVEY
Ranks top 15 companies in the emerging companies segment

- Survey looks at HR practices to benchmark the small and mid-sized IT-BPO organizations in India
- Over 13,000 employees from 61 companies participated in the second edition of the survey

New Delhi, January 6, 2009: NASSCOM, the premier trade body and the “voice” of the Indian IT industry, today released findings of its annual survey – ‘Exciting Emerging Companies to work for’, along with the ranking of top 15 emerging companies in the IT-BPO sector in India. This is the second edition of the survey which has been conducted in partnership with Right Management India.

Recognising the performance, proliferation and increasing importance of emerging companies within the IT-BPO ecosystem, NASSCOM has been actively tracking their evolution and growth. In the last three years around 371 start-ups have become operational in the Products arena.

Emerging companies are sought after by career seekers for their close-knit, non-hierarchical work environment, culture of innovation and commitment to employee empowerment. The focused approach of these companies makes them the perfect platform for nurturing specialised talent and building cross-functional skills.

The objective of this survey therefore, was to identify the best small and medium-sized IT-BPO companies to work for. This survey aims to provide participating companies with insights on their employees' perceptions on the work environment, work culture and degree of satisfaction and examine the robustness of their HR systems and processes. At an industry level, this survey will help companies to learn best practices from their peers and enhance the overall employer branding of this segment.

Commenting on the rankings and survey findings, Mr. Som Mittal, President, NASSCOM said, “The emerging companies segment is a critical part of the Indian IT-BPO industry, and has been attracting high quality talent on account of the exciting and interesting growth opportunities and work culture it offers. This annual survey is an effort to benchmark this segment of the industry and create standards, and best practices. It is an effort to profile the performance of this segment and emphasise the high benchmarks set by the emerging companies in India with regards to workplace practices and systems. We congratulate the top 15 companies, and hope that organisations in this segment will find this survey useful and interesting.”

Commenting on the Exciting Emerging Companies to Work for survey findings, Ms. Anita Belani, Country Head - India, Right Management said, "In the current economic context, the need to closely monitor employee perception and to institutionalise it by having robust People systems and processes is extremely important. The Top 15 Companies are doing just this and they are doing it more effectively than the rest of the companies. There is a lot that the IT-BPO SME sector can learn from the Top 15 Exciting Emerging Companies to Work For’08! We celebrate the successful achievement of this purpose and hope that the participant organisations would derive similar benefits from it. Right Management would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Top 15 Companies in the Exciting Emerging Companies Survey ’08.”

* Small and medium or ‘emerging’ companies are defined as having an annual turnover of USD 50 million and below.(As per current exchange rates)
Key Analysis

- Employees across participant organizations believe that the following are the most critical considerations for them at their workplace:
  - Open and Caring Relationship with their Supervisors - team members can express their ideas freely
  - Personal Recognition - Appreciate and recognize individuals contribution in all areas
  - The existence and communication of Career Growth Options – informed about all career growth options
  - Trainings for Current and Future roles – Trained and prepared for handling current responsibilities and taking up new responsibilities as well
  - Open Relationship with Colleagues

- Career Development – There is a significant difference between the career development scores of the Top 15 companies and rest of the companies with those sharing career development plans with the employees scoring higher on the excitement index as compared to companies which don’t.

- Fairness & Equity – Employees of small companies (having strength less than 100) have better perception of their workplace with regards to fairness & equity

- Rewards & Recognitions – The difference between the scores of the Top 15 companies and the rest of the companies is the maximum in this dimension. The main reason being the fairness and transparency of the processes adopted by the Top 15 companies while deciding on the benefit schemes for its employees.

- Work Environment – The survey highlights organizations which are smaller in size have been able to meet their employees’ expectations on work environment better than mid-sized organizations.

- Work Satisfaction – Interestingly the survey revealed that companies’ investment in physical work environment condition does not seem to have any correlation with their Excitement Index. The key differentiators included in this dimension are enjoyment in working alongside a colleague, culture of learning and fun while working.

- HR Systems and Processes in the Top 15 Companies are significantly better than the Rest of the Companies and that is the main distinguishing factor in the Excitement Index of the Exciting Emerging Companies 2008

Survey Process and Model

The survey ranks the participant companies on a composite score known as the Excitement Index which is arrived at after analyzing both the employee perception inputs (captured by an online perception survey) and the HR diagnosis inputs (captured by HR diagnostic study conducted for each of the participating companies).

The 4-part tailor-made procedure adopted for the survey ensured that both the employees’ and the employers’ perspectives were well reflected:

Employee’s Perspective - An on-line survey was designed to tap the employees’ perception of their respective organizations on five dimensions: career development (CD), fairness & equity (F&E), reward & recognition (R&R), work environment (WE) and work satisfaction (WS) as observed and practiced in their organization. It reflects an employee’s perception on the above parameters on the climate, attitude and satisfaction scale. An employee perception score has been generated for each participating firm

HR Diagnostic Study - A score for each participating company was generated, following an in-depth meeting with their human resource personnel, understanding the design and implementation of the HR systems and processes, and studying the related documentation.
**The Industry Panel run-through** - The survey panel comprised of industry experts as well as senior representatives from NASSCOM and Right Management India to ensure that no ambiguities were creeping into the system and that there was no experience or expertise bias.

**Analysis** - The collated data was then calculated and analyzed to arrive at the final list.

**About NASSCOM**

NASSCOM (www.nasscom.in) is India's National Association of Software and Service Companies, the premier trade body and the chamber of commerce of the IT software and services industry in India. NASSCOM is a global trade body with over 1200 members, of which over 250 are global companies from the US, UK, EU, Japan and China. NASSCOM’s member companies are in the business of software development, software services, software products, IT-enabled/BPO services and e-commerce. NASSCOM has been the strongest proponent of global free trade in India.

NASSCOM is committed to work proactively to encourage its members to adopt world class management practices, build and uphold highest quality standards and become globally competitive. In India and around the world, NASSCOM members are participants in the new global economy and are reputed for their cutting-edge business practices and social initiatives.

**About Right Management**

Right Management (www.right.com) is the world’s leading provider of integrated Human Capital Consulting Services and Solutions across the employment lifecycle. Right Management helps clients maximize the return on their investments while assessing individuals to achieve their full potential. Right Management is a wholly owned subsidiary of Manpower Inc., a world leader in the employment services that enable its clients to win in the changing world of work.