

**NEWS RELEASE**

May 17, 2007

**JERRY STALLARD IS ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR FINALIST**

Strongsville, Ohio — Jerry Stallard, founder and co-owner of GTS Communications, has been selected as a finalist for the 2007 **Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year®** program in Northeast Ohio.

Stallard started the company 11 years ago. His wife and business partner, Victoria, is co-owner and vice president.

The annual EOY award was established by Ernst & Young in 1986, and is presented in more than 125 cities in 40 countries to honor entrepreneurs whose ingenuity and perseverance have created and sustained successful, growing business ventures.



Awards are given to those who have demonstrated excellence and extraordinary success in areas such as innovation, financial performance, and personal commitment to their businesses and communities.

GTS has experienced average annual sales growth of more than 20%, and has only lost one employee to voluntary turnover in its history.

Regional winners will be announced at a special gala event on June 26 at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel. Northeast Ohio honorees will be eligible for the national EOY program.



National award recipients will be recognized at the annual event in Palm Springs in November. The overall EOY winner for the U.S. moves on to the world competition in Monte Carlo.

Other recent accolades for GTS include an NEO Success Award, two Weatherhead 100 honors, SBA's Small Business Person of the Year and the COSE Ten Under 10.

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