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TCG and MindBox Form Strategic Partnership

Delivering Rules Management and Decision Support to Government

Washington, DC and Greenbrae, CA, March 28, 2005 -- TCG and MindBox® LLC announced today that they have formed a strategic partnership to deliver industry-leading decision support and rules-based reasoning tools to the government using TCG's GSA Schedule contract vehicle. TCG is a leading provider of IT and management consulting solutions to the Federal government and MindBox is the premier provider of advanced rule- and case-based reasoning technology to government agencies

The use of decision support and artificial intelligence software can significantly accelerate information processing in many government systems, including grants management, bio-informatics, financial management, scientific research, and information management. MindBox's component-based architecture contains:

- *ARTEnterprise™*: A foundation development environment for building intelligent applications.
- Engine Service Provider (ESP): Core functionality that provides an architectural framework for scalability, as well as efficient and effective operations.
- *ARTOptimize™*, *ARTQualify™*, *ARTPrice™*: Component software, based on *ARTEnterprise*, that provides additional infrastructure for automating eligibility, configuration, and packaging activities. For Federal grants management, TCG will focus on using *ARTQualify* for grant eligibility decisioning.
- MindBox Power Editor: A business-friendly rules management environment that provides business users the ability to add, change and retire rules and guidelines.

The MindBox product architecture separates the business rules from the system code. Using the MindBox Power Editor, business users can make changes as necessary *with minimal technical knowledge* — decreasing the cost of IT maintenance, speeding the implementation of legislative and policy changes, and putting responsibility for those changes into the hands of the most-qualified staff.

Extensive surveys of the available COTS artificial intelligence tools have shown that MindBox is a leader in the intelligent decisioning marketplace. The product is a hybrid application, combining rule- and case-based approaches to reasoning that provide flexibility in deployment and reduce overall impact of the system to the culture, methods and existing processes of users.

"As the IT industry automates more and more business functions and processes, applying rules and policies to manage these systems becomes paramount," said Rich Barfus, President and CEO of MindBox LLC. "TCG is leveraging our long history as a pioneer in rules technology, plus our unique abilities to apply case-based reasoning and to edit rules using a true business user interface, to deliver their decision-support products to government entities."

"The government processes massive amounts of information according to incredibly complicated policies and rules," said David G. Cassidy, Vice President at TCG. "Through our agreement with MindBox, TCG will deliver cutting-edge tools that help manage and overcome this growing need, and give other integrators GSA Schedule access to the industry's best rules- and case-based reasoning software."

About TCG

TCG (Turner Consulting Group, <http://www.tcg.com>), a Washington, DC-based company, specializes in delivering grants management solutions to the Federal government, and is responsible for pioneering integration work with Grants.gov, the government's grants applications portal.

TCG focuses on helping government agencies use the power of the Internet and the Web to better interact with the public, and to generate internal cost savings and efficiencies. TCG projects have won awards for their groundbreaking achievements, including piloting the first inter-agency grants management system, and creating the first inter-agency government system to receive secure information from the general public. That system, Interagency Edison (<http://www.iedison.gov>), was built in 1995 for NIH's specific needs. Today the system serves the invention and patent reporting requirements of 22 Federal agencies.

TCG was one of the fastest-growing privately-held companies in the United States in 2001, as ranked by *Inc.* magazine. The firm has been on *Washington Technology's* Fast 50. The company was SEI-assessed at Capability Maturity Model Integration Maturity Level 2 (CMMI Level 2 for Software as defined by the CMMI version 1.1) in April 2004 and is one of about 70¹ companies worldwide to have achieved such recognition of process excellence.

About MindBox, LLC

MindBox® is a technology company focused on financial services organizations. MindBox provides software and consulting services that leverage company and industry best practices in order to automate common lending practices such as underwriting, pricing, product best fit, deal structuring, debt reparation and cross sell across multiple origination channels. The company's products and services have a proven track record of reducing cost and increasing revenue by automating knowledge-intensive business processes using sophisticated decisioning systems and award-winning rule and case-based reasoning software.

MindBox technology integrates internet interfaces and other client contact channels with back-end business operations into one streamlined, efficient system that provides individually-tailored, optimized customer interactions. More information can be found by visiting www.mindbox.com or by calling (877) 650-MIND (6463).

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¹ 70 companies appear on the Software Engineering Institute's web site under CMM Level 2, as of April 17, 2003. The list of CMM/CMMI assessed companies can be found at http://seir.sei.cmu.edu/pars/pars_list_iframe.asp.