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For Release

Sirius Collaborates with IBM to Become First IBM Business Partner Certified for Dynamic Infrastructure Skills

Sirius Specialty and Specialty Elite Certifications Now Part of IBM's Dynamic Infrastructure Program for Business Partners

San Antonio, **TX** – **March 9**, **2009** – Sirius today announced it is the first IBM Business Partner to be certified in the IBM Dynamic Infrastructure Specialty Program. Through the program, Sirius will work with IBM to help clients build a new, more dynamic infrastructure that will bring more intelligence, automation, integration, and efficiencies to the digital and physical worlds.

The program is designed to enable clients to use powerful computing systems to manage and gain insight from an increasing number of things in their physical infrastructure that are being instrumented with intelligent sensors. IDC estimates the market opportunity for the software, servers, technologies, and services to manage the world's converged IT and physical infrastructure to be \$122 billion by 2012.

In October of 2008, IBM introduced the New Enterprise Data Center (NEDC) Specialty Program – a program that Sirius worked hand-in-hand with IBM to design and develop. The three categories in NEDC are Virtualization/Optimization, Business Resiliency and Energy Efficiency.

In early February of 2009, Sirius announced that it was the first partner to meet the requirements of Specialty and Specialty Elite certifications in the Business Resilience category. Sirius has also submitted nominations in the categories of Virtualization/Optimization and Energy Efficiency.

On February 10, 2009, IBM announced to expand NEDC to the Dynamic Infrastructure Specialty Program, adding Information Infrastructure to the specialty categories. IBM also added more options to achieve Project Management certification, simplified identification of skills currency, additional Linux certification choices, and Expanded Dynamic Infrastructure sales and technical solution education.

The Dynamic Infrastructure Specialty Program has enabled Sirius to work hand-in-hand with IBM to develop certification tests and practicums for the business partner community.

"When we announced this initiative in October of 2008, Sirius made it clear that they intended to be certified as Specialty Elite in several key categories," said Ayman Antoun, IBM Vice President, Business Partners North America. "They followed through by earning the first Specialty and Specialty Elite partner designations for business resiliency - an accomplishment that shows both IBM and our clients that Sirius has a deep commitment to solution competencies that address clients' most strategic IT transformation needs."

"We decided last year when IBM announced this program that it was exactly what we needed to get the indepth skills needed to help our clients with transformational IT strategies," said Chris Mierzwa, Sirius VP, Product Management and Alliances. "The entire Sirius sales force recently convened in San Antonio to receive education, demonstrations and hands on training built around the concept of Dynamic Infrastructure. They had the option of taking tracks in virtualization, government solutions or healthcare solutions specific to today's IT challenges."

Sirius is using IBM programs like the IBM Dynamic Infrastructure Specialty Program, along with product enhancements, new product announcements, and new services, to deliver more strategic IT solutions to clients of all sizes.



About Sirius: Sirius is a national IT solution provider and IBM Premier Business Partner that is dedicated to helping clients implement advanced infrastructure solutions that provide a competitive advantage and a positive return on their investment. For more information about Sirius, visit <u>www.siriuscom.com</u>.

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