

Two Siemens Employees to be honored at the 11th annual National Women of Color in Technology Awards Conference

By Sybil Faulcon

Celebrating the achievements of minority women is the focus of the 2006 National Women of Color (NWOC) Technology Awards Conference, which will be held at the Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel in Atlanta on October 19-21, 2006. This annual event, celebrating its 11th anniversary this year, attracts thousands of the nation's top female technologists, executives, and students. The NWOC Awards Conference identifies exceptional women who are making significant contributions in the fields of business, technology, engineering and science.



Sarita Thompson, Vice President of Managed Services, Western Region, will be named as a Career Achievement Award recipient at the 11th annual (NWOC) Technology Awards Conference. Sarita Thompson joined Siemens Business Services, Inc., in 1995 as an Enterprise Systems Consultant. 10+ plus years later, as the Vice President, Managed Services, she's accountable for a revenue stream of \$116M with responsibility for profit and loss management, client satisfaction, employee satisfaction and operational excellence. She has the regional responsibility for the Western half of the United States in excess of 50 accounts for such high profile clients as Microsoft, Verizon, California Administrative Office of the Courts, Avery Dennison, Texas Instruments, Toshiba and others. Further, Sarita is ultimately responsible for fourteen Directors, 50+ managers and 900+ onsite technical professionals. Her responsibilities also include ensuring transparent delivery of centralized services (Help Desk, Network Services, etc.) into major customer accounts. Sarita is also responsible for the full lifecycle from assisting in the provision of pre-sales support for Business Development Vice Presidents through transition and the delivery of sold services. She has a continual focus on operational excellence, root cause analysis and improvement programs based on Six Sigma and ITIL concepts. These are reasons the team continually maintains the highest gross profit percentage of all regions.

Stephen J. Cameron, Senior Vice President – Managed Services, states “Sarita has worked directly for me for the last five years. She’s currently running a \$100 million budget and is responsible for over 1,000 employees in North America. Sarita has established herself within our organization as a leader and I consider her to be a trusted business partner. She is an asset to our organization and her commitment to excellence makes her an outstanding mentor and role model as well as a well-deserving recipient of the National Women of Color Award.”



Leslie Barber, Program Director, who'll receive an "All Star" award at the NWOC conference, joined SBS in 2005 as a Senior Procurement Manager for the BearingPoint project in McLean, Virginia. The "All Star" awards honors professionals with inspiring success stories and trailblazers in the fields of business, technology, engineering and science. Each honoree is recognized as a respected pioneer in her field, has demonstrated significant financial and management responsibility, and is noted as an innovator in business and/or technology.

Leslie, as the Program Director for BearingPoint project, is responsible for providing the overall direction, leadership, and control of all business activities performed within functioning units while developing and maintaining operational standards, policies, and procedures to ensure consistency with corporate standards. She oversees all client and interdepartmental relationships to include providing direction in the area of outsourcing strategies, customer support, service level achievement, business development, account management, sales and marketing.

Leslie reports directly to Dr. Alvin Steward, III, Regional Director (Northeast Region), Managed Services. Alvin states, “Leslie, as the Information Technology (IT) Program Director for the BearingPoint Account, exemplifies leadership, dedication, professionalism, and a genuine desire to be the very best at everything that she encounters. At a time in the United States where it is believed by many scholars and professionals that there is a leadership crisis, Leslie has responded to that accusation positively by showing that transformational leaders still exist in organizations of today.”

The National Women of Color Technology Awards Conference is an initiative of Career Communications Group, Inc. (CCG), publisher of CCG's Women of Color Magazine, US Black Engineer & Information Technology

magazine, Hispanic Engineer & Information Technology magazine, and Science Spectrum magazine. IBM Corporation is the title sponsor of the conference.

Each year, the Awards Conference offers a variety of networking events, workshops, and seminars including the Technology Recognition Luncheon honoring both veterans and rising stars, the Power Breakfast, and Career Fair featuring corporations, government agencies and educational institutions, and its conference signature event, the Women of Color Technology Awards Gala. CCG is a national leader in providing recruitment, retention, and recognition to organizations that value diversity.