



## **Toastmasters Presents Golden Gavel to Jim Kouzes**

**San Francisco, Calif. – July 31, 2006** — Pfeiffer, a Wiley imprint (NYSE:JWa) (NYSE:JWb), today announced that Jim Kouzes, leadership expert and co-author of the best-selling book *The Leadership Challenge*, has been selected as the 2006 recipient of Toastmasters International’s Golden Gavel Award.

The Golden Gavel is the most prestigious award offered by Toastmasters International, a worldwide organization devoted to teaching public speaking and leadership skills. The award has been presented once a year since 1959 to a distinguished individual in the fields of communication and leadership. Past recipients include Walter Cronkite, Earl Nightingale, Rev. Robert Schuller, Dr. Joyce Brothers, Zig Ziglar, Anthony Robbins, Stephen Covey, Debbi Fields, Deepak Chopra, Tom Peters, Ken Blanchard and Marcus Buckingham.

Kouzes, an executive fellow at the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the Leavey School of Business at Santa Clara University in Northern California, is perhaps best known for co-authoring *The Leadership Challenge*. Over its nearly 20-year history, *The Leadership Challenge* has sold over one million copies and has been translated into 11 languages. The book’s success led to the creation of the Leadership Practices Inventory (LPI), one of the most widely used leadership assessment instruments in the world.

“It’s a great honor to be recognized by Toastmasters International with the Golden Gavel Award, joining the company of some of our greatest leaders,” said Kouzes. “More than ever there is a need for leaders to inspire us to dream, to participate and to persevere. Toastmasters International offers everyone the chance to accomplish this by helping them to become strong communicators, which can often lead to positive change.”

Kouzes will accept the Golden Gavel Award at a luncheon in his honor on Thursday, August 24 during the Toastmasters International Convention in Washington D.C. Additional details on the event can be found at <http://www.toastmasters.org/>.

### **About Toastmasters International**

Toastmasters International has helped more than four million people become better speakers since the organization's founding in 1924 at the YMCA in Santa Ana, Calif. Today, Toastmasters International has more than 200,000 members in 10,000 clubs in 90 countries, including several hundred clubs in the Bay Area alone.

### **About Pfeiffer**

Pfeiffer serves the professional development and hands-on resource needs of training and human resource practitioners and gives them products to do their jobs better. The company delivers proven ideas and solutions from experts in HR development and HR management, and we offer effective and customizable tools to improve workplace performance. From novice to seasoned professional, Pfeiffer is the source you can trust to make yourself and your organization more successful. More is available at [www.Pfeiffer.com](http://www.Pfeiffer.com).

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