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HVCB EARNS PINNACLE AWARD FROM *SUCCESSFUL MEETINGS* MAGAZINE

HONOLULU – One of the meeting industry’s premier publications, *Successful Meetings* magazine, has named the Hawai’i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) a winner of its 2008 Pinnacle Award.

Determined by voting of association and corporate planners, the Pinnacle Award is presented to the top destination support organizations worldwide.

Michael Murray, CMP, CMM, CASE, HVCB vice president of sales and marketing for corporate meetings and incentives, said the honor reflects the effort Hawai’i’s meetings industry puts forth in earning the trust of planners and their clients.

“Planners value the top-quality service they receive day-in and day-out from Hawai’i’s meeting professionals,” said Murray. “Earning the recognition of your clients is always the most rewarding tribute and we congratulate our island chapters and industry partners for their support in earning this award.”

In contacting HVCB about the award, Sharon Freark of *Successful Meetings* noted, “Planners voted for HVCB on a ‘top of mind’ basis when asked to name best in category based on service and expertise of your staff, quality and number of services provided and timely response and follow-up to any questions or problems.”

Murray added that planners appreciate HVCB’s thoroughness in collaborating with its island chapter bureaus and industry partners to create comprehensive destination packages for meeting programs statewide.

Murray added, “Planners know that we’re a very cohesive industry and they can depend on us to help create a successful program that meets their objectives.”

Special note to media: The Hawai’i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) recognizes the use of Hawaiian diacritical markings (e.g. glottal stop [‘], macron [ā] in place names of Hawai’i such as Lāna’i). However, HVCB respects the individual use of these markings for names of organizations and businesses.

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For information about hosting corporate meetings and incentives in Hawai'i, visit HVCB's website at BusinessAloha.com or call 1-888-424-2924.

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For more information, meeting planners may visit the Hawai'i Convention Center's website at HawaiiConvention.com or call (808) 943-3500.

For additional information about SMG, visit www.SMGWorld.com.