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## **BoardEvals Launches New Comprehensive Online Board Evaluation Tools for Public, Private and Nonprofit Organizations**

**New Web-Based Software Service from BoardEvals Enhances Corporate Governance and  
Improves Board Performance through Effective, Anonymous Self-Assessments**

### **NEWS HIGHLIGHTS**

- New online board self-assessment tools by BoardEvals replace ad-hoc, manual board evaluations with intuitive, standardized web-based service.
- BoardEvals offers evaluation suites for public, private and nonprofit organizations, as well as industry-specific evaluations for associations, credit unions, school boards and venture-funded start-ups.
- Confidential tools help assess board of director performance throughout the year, continuously improving board performance and governance and keeping boards accountable and aligned to organizational strategy.

EL DORADO HILLS, Calif., June 1, 2010 – BoardEvals today launched a set of comprehensive online board evaluation tools that help public, private and nonprofit organizations perform more efficient, effective and thorough board evaluations. These tools include suites of board evaluations designed to improve board performance and overall corporate governance throughout the year. This new web-based software service replaces the manual, pen-and-paper board self-evaluation processes used by most organizations today with a standardized, automated online tool based on today's best practices.

According to a Pricewaterhouse Coopers survey of more than 1,000 corporate directors, nearly 80 percent of organizations use board self-evaluations as their most important technique to ensure director effectiveness. In fact, the New York Stock Exchange now requires board evaluations for its listed companies. Yet for most organizations, this remains an ad-hoc, manual process, either conducted internally or through a consultant.

BoardEvals combines the advice of industry experts, customer feedback and industry-best practices to create full online suites of self-evaluations and board assessments. These online software suites offer whole-board self-evaluations, committee self-evaluations, director self-assessments, director peer evaluations, board skills assessments and CEO/Executive Director evaluations. This allows organizations to obtain more meaningful, accurate information and measure progress over time against a consistent set of criteria. This historical benchmarking is a critical element to ensuring a process of continuous improvement in board performance.

“In response to the corporate scandals and Wall Street debacles of the past decade, most companies have adopted formal board evaluations as a performance improvement tool, whether they are required to or not,” said Bruce Dravis, partner at California law firm of Downey Brand LLP, and author of multiple books on corporate governance including “The Role of Independent Directors After Sarbanes-Oxley.” “A tool like BoardEvals can help standardize and automate board self-evaluations. The data analysis can be used to improve those critical internal discussions on where the board is - and is not - adding value and leadership for an organization’s stakeholders.”

BoardEvals provides the industry’s most comprehensive set of self-evaluations. These board evaluations can save organizations time and money by automating the entire board evaluation process, from initial data collection all the way through back-end data analysis and reporting. Director responses can be kept anonymous and confidential, ensuring that results are valid and accurate. Consultants who focus on corporate compliance can also use this as a standardized tool to incorporate into their consulting service. Other BoardEvals features include both standardized and customizable evaluation criteria, integrated confidentiality settings, trend analysis, graphical on-screen and pdf reports, status tracking and industry-leading security and data management features that conform to an organization’s data retention policies.

“The feedback we’ve received about BoardEvals is that it not only streamlines and automates a heavily manual process for most companies or organizations, but adds an extremely valuable ‘anonymity factor’ that leads to more honest, candid feedback,” said Jim Schraith, CEO of BoardEvals. “Rather than just comply or go through the motions, honest self-evaluations can be an edge to creating more highly effective boards that can promote better organizational efficiencies, competitiveness and profitability.”

This certainly was the case for NatureBridge, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization based in Northern California. Founded in 1971, NatureBridge, the largest environmental education

partner of the National Park Service, conducts 3- to 5-day environmental science programs for students in grades K-12. They chartered board member Tracy Thompson with developing a regular and methodical board assessment process. Her research led her to BoardEvals.

“The BoardEvals process opened our eyes to key issues which we have focused on in our strategic plan,” said Tracy Thompson, shareholder at Miller Law Group and vice chair of operations for the NatureBridge board of directors. “BoardEvals helped us customize a questionnaire, then provided an insightful summary report that led to extremely productive board discussion. BoardEvals offered an anonymous forum for candid feedback that will help make our already strong board even more effective.”

Benefits of BoardEvals include: assessment of board strengths and weaknesses; continuous performance improvement over time via historical benchmarking; enhanced director accountability; optimization of board composition to best serve organizational objectives; board alignment with overall organizational strategy; better board communication with objective, fact-based feedback and improved board transparency for added credibility in the eyes of shareholders.

BoardEvals is the industry’s most thorough, cost-effective online board evaluation solution, with annual subscriptions starting at \$999 for nonprofit organizations and \$2,499 for corporations. These subscriptions include unlimited use of a full suite of evaluations designed to improve the board and overall organizational performance. Per use licenses are also available for a reduced cost.

### **About BoardEvals**

BoardEvals provides web-based board evaluation tools designed to improve board of director performance and enhance corporate governance. These online, anonymous tools help public, private and nonprofit organizations perform more effective, efficient and thorough board evaluations. BoardEvals replaces the manual, ad-hoc board evaluation processes used by most organizations today with a standardized, automated board assessment process that saves time and money, while improving overall corporate governance practices. For more information, go to [www.boardevals.com](http://www.boardevals.com).

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