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Seasoned High Tech Leader Named
Chief Operating Officer

Broad International Experience Frames New COO's Background

Akram Atallah, an experienced high-technology business leader, corporate executive and engineer, has been named as ICANN's Chief Operating Officer.

Atallah has more than two decades of experience in engineering, operations, finance and global business. He has most recently served as the Chief Operating Officer of CoreObjects Software in Los Angeles, California.

"This is a perfect fit, not only because Akram brings to ICANN an amazing understanding of the online and high tech worlds, but because he also brings an intuitive grasp of our unique global role in the Internet ecosystem," said Rod Beckstrom, ICANN's President and Chief Executive Officer. "The fact that he is fluent in French and Arabic will add to our ability to reach out more effectively to the international community."

Prior to joining CoreObjects, Atallah worked for 12 years at Conexant Systems, Inc. in Newport Beach, California, most recently as Vice President and General Manager of the firm's Broadband Access Business Unit in New Jersey where he managed up to 1000 employees across three continents. Atallah joined Conexant while it was Rockwell Semiconductor Systems. Prior to that, he worked for SyQuest Technology Corporation, Conner Peripherals Corporation and Miniscribe Corporation.

"This is a chance for me to serve in a leadership role for an organization that is at the very heart of the most important communication and information system man has ever created," said Atallah. "The Internet is a global resource, the importance of which is escalating for business and governments all around the world. ICANN is central to assuring that it remains a stable and unifying system."

Akram Atallah holds an MBA, Masters of Science Electrical Engineering and a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, all obtained from the University of Colorado.

Atallah will begin his role as Chief Operating Officer on September 20.

To read more about Akram Atallah's background, go here: http://www.icann.org/en/biog/akram-cv.pdf.

For a high resolution photo of Akram Atallah, go here: http://www.icann.org/en/biog/photos/akram-hires.jpg.

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About ICANN: *ICANN's mission is to ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn't have one global Internet. ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers. ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn't deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet's naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet. **For more information please visit: www.icann.org.***