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**DIVERSITYMBA MAGAZINE NAMES VERIZON
#2 COMPANY FOR DIVERSE MANAGERS TO WORK**

New approach to ranking companies focuses on management space and pipeline development of diverse professionals.

CHICAGO, IL- *DiversityMBA Magazine (DMBA)*, a niche publication targeting people of color and women MBAs, students, professionals and the business community will publish its third annual "Top 50 Companies for Diverse Managers To Work" in its spring issue, which will hit the newsstands in late April. Verizon Communications Inc. has been selected #2 in the ranking.

Through DMBA's initiative Verizon was ranked against Fortune 500 companies through both primary and secondary third-party research that approached review of each organization's diversity efforts and success metrics in a unique manner as compared to many existing "top diversity" rankings. New this year, the 2008 DMBA Top 50 Companies list will showcase companies that make a strategic effort to implement accountable diversity strategies for managers of diverse backgrounds to excel and develop into the executive ranks. To differentiate itself and provide its readers with relevant, useful and cutting edge information, DMBA placed the focus of this effort on a segment of diverse management and the pipeline development of emerging leaders. Because the publication's readership consists of diverse professionals and entrepreneurs, it is important that the research reflect this audience.

"Whether it's a wireless service, the latest in broadband technology, or the best in entertainment, Verizon depends on the unique talents and experiences of a diverse employee base to maintain its premier network and better serve its customers." said Magda Yrizarry, vice president, workforce culture, diversity and compliance, Verizon Communications Inc.

Verizon's commitment to diversity is illustrated by its 360 degree approach to creating an inclusive culture and supporting the diverse communities which it serves. Verizon actively leverages its internal employee affinity groups for talent development and recruitment into management, provides its customers with customized solutions including language-specific products, gives back to multicultural communities through its significant philanthropic efforts and promotes supplier diversity awarding more than \$3 billion in business annually to diverse suppliers, including women and minority-owned

firms. More than 46 percent of the company's senior leadership is made up of women and minorities.

Says Pam McElvane CEO and publisher of *DiversityMBA Magazine*, "The recognition bestowed upon Verizon through our research is meaningful on multiple levels and places this organization at the forefront of diversity practices that are working to change the face of the executive space in Corporate America. Verizon takes diversity and inclusion efforts to the next level by approaching its effort in a holistic manner and ensuring that its leadership mirrors its overall employee and consumer bases."

DiversityMBA Magazine provides research reports on industry diversity programs and performance, continuing education, networking opportunities, professional development for women and people of color working in corporate America, and business entrepreneurs. The magazine is distributed at newsstands, top business schools, professional and business associations and international networks.

Please visit www.diversitymbamagazine.com for more information about DiversityMBA Magazine. To schedule media interviews, please call 773.857.1320

2008 LIST OF TOP 50 COMPANIES FOR DIVERSE MANAGERS TO WORK

1. Bank of America	2. Verizon Communications	3. Wal-Mart	4. Allstate Insurance Company	5. JPMorgan Chase
6. MetLife, Inc.	7. Kaiser Permanente	8. Burger King	9. Harley Davidson	10. Citigroup
11. Credit Suisse	12. CSX	13. Comcast Communications	14. Well Point	15. Convergys
16. Aetna Inc.	17. Astra Zeneca	18. Chrysler LLP	19. Pitney Bowes	20. SunTrust Bank
21. American Express	22. General Motors	23. Pepsi Co	24. HSBC N.A.	25. Merck
26. Dow Chemical	27. Hewlett Packard	28. Procter & Gamble	29. Starwood Hotels	30. Compuware
31. Cadbury Schweppes Americas Beverages	32. Sears Holdings, Inc.	33. Xerox	34. Consolidated Edison of NY	35. Lowes Corporation
36. Toyota Motor Sales	37. Yum Brands, Inc.	38. Hilton	39. Darden Restaurants	40. Price Waterhouse Coopers
41. Cummins	42. Fannie Mae	43. Avon	44. Nordstroms	45. RR Donnelly

46. Miller Brewing Company	47. Genentech	48. McDonalds Corporation	49. TIAA-CREF	50. Schering-Plough