

**Immediate Release**  
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**GREATER RALEIGH CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU**  
**WINS GOLD SERVICE AWARD FOR 2008**  
*PRESENTED BY MEETINGS & CONVENTIONS MAGAZINE*

**Raleigh, NC** – A dedication to quality service is key to maintaining customers, and is also the key to winning *Meetings & Conventions'* Gold Service Award. This prestigious award honors Convention and Visitors Bureaus that have excelled in professionalism and dedication in their service to meeting professionals.

This year the readers of *Meetings & Conventions* awarded 77 domestic and 13 international CVBs with the Gold Service Award distinction. Relying on their extensive industry experience in both corporate and association markets, the magazine's readers made selections based on key criteria including: professionalism of staff; support on hotels and site inspections; assistance with ground transportation planning; guidance on local attractions; and liaisons with local vendors and services.

“The sales team has been working tirelessly on promoting the Greater Raleigh area as a premier meetings and convention destination and take pride in providing stellar service and making a lasting impression,” said Denny Edwards, president and CEO of the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau.

“The 2008 Gold Service winners continually excel in many valuable areas of service, impressing not only their clients but also the demanding readers of *Meetings & Conventions*.” said Bernard W. Schraer, *Meetings & Conventions* Group Publisher. “Our entire staff joins the magazine's readers in honoring these outstanding bureaus who continue to focus on effective working partnerships with meeting professionals.”

Winning CVBs will be featured in *Meetings and Conventions'* Gold Awards issue published this November.

*Meetings & Conventions* ([www.mcmag.com](http://www.mcmag.com)) is a division of NORTHSTAR Travel Media LLC, publishers of worldwide directories, periodicals, electronic products, and destination information services for travel, meetings and the hospitality industry.

The Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau, as the official destination marketing organization of Raleigh and Wake County, accelerates sustainable economic growth and development by increasing visitor and convention business.