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***Inc.* Magazine Unveils List of Fastest-Growing Private Companies; AST Named to Prestigious List**

Naperville, IL, August 28, 2012: *Inc.* Magazine has ranked AST Corporation No. 1514 on its annual Inc. 5000, an exclusive ranking of the nation's fastest-growing private companies. In the Chicago Metra Area, AST was ranked #62. This is the sixth year *Inc.* Magazine has compiled their exclusive list of the nation's fastest growing private companies. The list represents the most comprehensive look at the most important segment of the economy—America's independent-minded entrepreneurs.

In a stagnant economic environment, the median growth rate of 2012 Inc. 500 | 5000 companies remains an impressive 97 percent. The companies on this year's list report having created over 400,000 jobs in the past three years, and aggregate revenue among the honorees reached \$299 billion.

AST is a specialized Oracle E-Business Suite systems integrator with the objective of helping customers realize the full potential of their investment in Oracle Applications. With the highest level of Oracle partnership, AST seeks out and undertakes the most demanding and rewarding projects.

"We are honored to have made the Inc. 500 | 5000 list, and to be counted among other top U.S. entrepreneurial leaders. This is a testament to the skill, professionalism and dedication of our employees to their work and making AST a leader among Oracle systems integrators," said AST President, Pravin Kumar. "This recognition demonstrates that our services and innovative practices meet and exceed the expectations of our clients."

AST was recognized in 2011 by *Inc.* Magazine and Winning Workplaces as one of the nation's Top Small Company Workplaces.

"Now, more than ever, we depend on Inc. 500/5000 companies to spur innovation, provide jobs, and drive the economy forward. Growth companies, not large corporations, are where the action is," says Inc. Editor Eric Schurenberg.

Complete results of the Inc. 5000, including company profiles and an interactive database that can be sorted by industry, region, and other criteria, can be found at www.inc.com/5000.

Methodology

The 2012 Inc. 500 | 5000 is ranked according to percentage revenue growth when comparing 2008 to 2011. To qualify, companies must have been founded and generating revenue by March 31, 2008. They had to be U.S.-based, privately held, for profit, and independent—not subsidiaries or divisions of other companies—as of December 31, 2011. (Since then, a number of companies on the list have gone public or been acquired.) The minimum revenue required for 2008 is \$100,000; the minimum for 2011 is \$2 million. Companies on the Inc. 500 are featured in Inc.'s September issue. They represent the top tier of the Inc. 5000, which can be found at www.inc.com/500.

About *Inc.* Magazine

Founded in 1979 and acquired in 2005 by Mansueto Ventures LLC, Inc. (www.inc.com) is the only major business magazine dedicated exclusively to owners and managers of growing private companies that delivers real solutions for today's innovative company builders. With a total paid circulation of 712,647, Inc. provides hands-on tools and market-tested strategies for managing people, finances, sales, marketing, and technology. Visit us online at www.inc.com.

About AST Corporation

Established in 1995, AST Corporation is an Oracle Platinum Partner, an Oracle University training and delivery partner, and a certified Oracle On-Demand implementation provider. AST offers professional consulting services to Oracle Applications users and serves industry-leading organizations in: municipal, state and federal government; public transportation; airport and seaport; K-12 and secondary education; utilities/energy; manufacturing; insurance; retailing; and telecommunications. Clients look to AST Corporation for leadership and assistance in business process redesign, project management, systems integration, systems administration and training.