



Media contacts:

Brenda Jones, APR
Jones PR Group
405/516-9686
Brenda@JonesPRGroup.com

Melissa Perlman
Office Depot
561/438-0704
Melissa.Pperlman@officedepot.com

**Office Depot To Honor Waste Transportation Executive, Susan P. Rice
As 2006 'Businesswoman Of The Year'
At Success Strategies for Businesswomen Conference**

Washington, D.C. – March 20, 2006 – Office Depot (NYSE:ODP), a leading global provider of office products and services, announced Susan P. Rice, a waste transportation executive, has been selected for the prestigious Office Depot “Businesswoman of the Year” award for 2006. Rice is the owner of Cavanagh Services Group, Inc., a \$10-million Utah-based company that provides packaging, transportation, and project support for the environmental cleanup industry.

The award will be presented on Sunday, March 26 during the opening session of the Office Depot *Success Strategies for Businesswomen Conference*, taking place next week at the Westin Diplomat Spa and Resort in Hollywood, Florida. Those interested in registering may do so online at www.officedepotsuccess.com or by calling 1-877-846-2367.

The *Success Strategies for Businesswomen Conference*, now in its sixth year, is recognized as one of the nation’s most prominent and significant events for female small business owners and corporate professionals.

Cynthia Campbell, Executive Vice President, Business Solutions Division for Office Depot and Lynn Connelly, Director of Strategic Alliances for Office Depot, will present the award to Rice who was nominated by Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP).

Only nine businesswomen nationwide were selected to receive the Office Depot 2006 “Businesswoman of the Year” award.

“Rice truly exemplifies the entrepreneurial success that women can achieve in the marketplace,” noted Campbell. “She was selected for this honor based on her leadership ability, mentoring of other businesswomen and altruistic commitment to her community.”

Rice was nominated by WIPP in collaboration with the Office Depot Women’s Advisory Board, which is comprised of 15 members. The Advisory Board’s mission is to help women grow their

businesses through innovative practices, and an unwavering commitment to making a difference in the lives of women.

“Office Depot’s commitment to recognizing the success and achievements of women business owners is extraordinary,” said Rice. “It is an honor to receive this prestigious award and I’m grateful for the support of WIPP for the nomination.”

About Cavanagh Services Group, Inc.

Cavanagh Services Group provides turnkey services in the environmental cleanup industry that includes rail and truck transportation, project support services, equipment leasing, and disposal services. Cavanagh is an 8(a)/SDB, Woman-owned, HUBZone small business that has been in business just over 3 years. In addition to its corporate office in Salt Lake City, Utah, Cavanagh Services Group has its Southeast Regional office in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. For more information about Cavanagh, visit www.cav-services.com or call (801) 532-2272.

About WIPP

Women Impacting Public Policy is a national bi-partisan group comprising over 535,000 members. The non-profit organization is the public policy voice for 38 national Women in Business groups and is The Voice for Women in Business in Our Nation’s Capital. WIPP strengthens its members’ sphere of influence in the legislative process, creates economic opportunities for members and builds alliances with other small business organizations. Visit www.wipp.org.

About the Office Depot *Success Strategies for Businesswomen Conference*

The Office Depot *Success Strategies for Businesswomen Conference* was created in 2001 and is recognized as one of the nation’s most prominent events for women business owners as well as corporate female professionals. The three-day event attracts more than 1,000 women from around the country and features keynote presentations, business panel sessions and workshops delivered by chief executive officers, presidents and vice presidents of national multi-million dollar companies founded by women, as well as Fortune 500 companies and women’s associations.

The conference also honors top women in business with Office Depot Visionary Awards. Leading sponsors for the 2006 conference are: Xerox Corporation, MassMutual, Microsoft, UPS, Washington Mutual and HON.

#