FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Social Accountability International, CIPE, and the UN Global Compact Release a New Publication on the Benefits of Responsible Business

NEW YORK, NY—Today at the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Leaders Summit, Social Accountability International (SAI), in cooperation with the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) and the UNGC, launched a joint publication From Principles to Practice: The Role of SA8000® in Implementing the UN Global Compact. This publication features six case studies of companies from around the world that use the SA8000® social accountability standard for decent working conditions developed by SAI as a tool to meet their UNGC commitments.

“The experiences of these companies show that SA8000® certification works effectively as a tool to report on and meet their Global Compact commitments,’ said Eileen Kohl Kaufman, executive director of SAI.

Companies profiled in this study include: Beraca (Brazil), Rosy Blue Diamond (Thailand), Sabaf (Italy), TDE (Bolivia), TNT Express (Argentina), and Yesim (Turkey). They are medium-sized enterprises by international standards (TNE Argentina, Rosy Blue Diamond, and TDE are subsidiaries of larger global companies), in diverse industries: apparel, appliance controls, chemicals, electrical transmission, jewelry, and transportation. Through participation in the UNGC and SA8000® certification they illustrate that businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions can move from ideas and statements to action.

“Since 2000, the UNGC initiative has encouraged business to commit to ten principles in the areas of human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption,” said John D. Sullivan, CIPE’s executive director. “Our joint publication highlights successful examples of how good corporate citizenship can be an integral part of business strategy and operations and help improve the business climate around the world.”

These case studies illustrate the usefulness of voluntary standards in advancing all aspects of good corporate citizenship in a variety of business ventures and environments. They also provide a strong case for the business benefits of responsible conduct in terms of improved sales, employee satisfaction, community relations, as well as brand and industry reputation. In the words of Mike Patrick, Director of Corporate Responsibility at TNT Express, “The challenge in this century is to recognize those that integrate social and environmental demands with the demands of business and influence others in the process.”

The case studies can be viewed on SAI’s website—http://www.sa-intl.org/fromprinciplestopractice

# # #

Social Accountability International (SAI) is a non-governmental, multi-stakeholder organization established to advance the human rights of workers and the health of enterprises by promoting decent work conditions, labor rights, and corporate social responsibility through voluntary standards. SAI developed one of the world’s preeminent social standards—SA8000— a recognized benchmark among the voluntary codes and standards initiatives. SAI is among the world’s leading social compliance training organizations, and has provided training to over 20,000 people.

SAI is headquartered in the United States with field representation in Brazil, China, India, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Vietnam, and UAE.

Contact:
JoLeen Ong
SAI Communications
Email: JOng@sa-intl.org
Tel: +1 (212) 684-1414 ext. 243