

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



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NPA joins Upwardly Global to lend a hand to international IT Professionals entering the United States employment marketplace

SAN DIEGO, February 7, 2011 – The Network Professional Association® and Upwardly Global today announced a new partnership to provide a unique opportunity to skilled immigrant Network Professionals. The NPA will provide to each Network Professional in the Upwardly Global community a free year of membership in this prestigious international professional association. In addition to other benefits, this membership will help to expand the professional networks, job search resources and professional development opportunities available to these select Network Professionals.

Through this collaboration, the NPA is directly contributing to the efforts of individual jobseekers in developing a strengthened job search, utilizing their key experiences to get them back into their professions. The NPA joins the ranks of many international and national organizations, including corporations, small businesses, and professional groups, that have risen to support the mission of Upwardly Global.

Upwardly Global is a national, award-winning nonprofit organization that supports work-authorized immigrant professionals to help connect them with top employers and build up the key skills needed to successfully navigate the U.S. job search process. The organization offers job search training and networking opportunities with U.S. employers across a range of industries to help immigrant professionals find work in their trained fields. Through their three offices in New York, San Francisco, and Chicago, Upwardly Global has assisted in the placement of more than 650 immigrant professionals with an average starting salary of \$40,000/year with full benefits.

The jobseekers who are accepted into Upwardly Global program are also experienced professionals who

are highly fluent in English, work-authorized, and have studied and worked in their fields in their home countries. However, they are unable to find professional jobs in the U.S. and are often working in low wage labor positions to support their families. Within this group of active jobseekers, the organization works with a large number of IT specialists from around the world. Information Technology make up approximately 25 percent of Upwardly Global's clientele altogether, which also includes finance, health, engineering, education, legal, and marketing professionals, among others.

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NPA, Established 1991, the non-profit Network Professional Association® (NPA) is the leading organization for network computing professionals. To be identified as true professionals, the NPA's international membership adheres to a code-of-ethics, continual demonstrated professional development, adherence and knowledge of the latest best practice standards, and strives for continual growth. The NPA also founded the widely acknowledged and the industry's only international Awards for Professionalism which honors individuals for their outstanding achievements in network computing and meeting the values of professionalism. The impartial strength of the NPA is a result of vendor neutrality and self-regulation.

The CNP is the consummate professional credential of the NPA. Career growth, proven experience, validated certification, advanced education, ethics and NPA membership are all steps towards achieving the CNP – Certified Network Professional credential.

A member of the NPA believes in the values of the professional association, its focus on the CNP credential and the professional status of network professionals through advocacy. Members receive a certificate of membership, quarterly Journal publications, benefits derived through chapters and programs, and opportunities to volunteer, publish and develop. The Association's focus is to support and promote the role of the network professional. Information about current activities and benefits may be found by visiting the NPA website – www.NPA.org.

NPA: ADVOCATE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK COMPUTING PROFESSIONAL