

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Leading Online Preconstruction Management Services Providers Announce Merger**

CINCINNATI – February 16, 2006 – A merger involving iSqFt, based in Cincinnati, and Denver-based Northstar Exchange Corporation (also known as Construction Information Network or Construction News Service), has been announced. The companies expect the merger to further the position of the combined company as the nation's leading provider of online preconstruction management services to the commercial construction industry.

“This is an exciting opportunity for the customers and employees of both of our firms as it enables us to expand our overall services, widen our geographic coverage, and provide the best functionality and features currently offered by both companies,” noted Dave Conway, iSqFt chief executive officer. “By combining the strengths of these two firms, we have further established ourselves as the undisputed leader in our marketplace.”

“I am very excited for our customers and employees moving forward. Clearly, taking the two top market leaders and combining forces, presents an exponential benefit to our client base providing unsurpassed value and quality of service. We are now very well positioned to rapidly grow our services nationwide and to continue looking for highly leveragable strategic alliances,” commented Tim O’Crowley, Northstar CEO.

The merger affords iSqFt and Northstar with the opportunity to evaluate the functionality and features of both companies’ offerings, ultimately providing their customers with a superior range of products and services. The companies expect the combination will further aid users in streamlining their preconstruction process and increasing efficiencies and cost savings, giving them an additional competitive advantage.

“We expect that this merger will allow us to expose our general contractor customers to a greater number of subcontractors while also giving our subcontractor customers additional opportunities to find both public and private work,” stated Conway. “This merger also supports our objective of strengthening relationships with our local partners, such as the AGC, by helping to increase their market leadership.”

The local market operations for the companies will continue as normal for the foreseeable future, providing existing iSqFt and Northstar customers with the same products and services to which they have become accustomed. Currently, the firms support over 10,000 subscribers and 300,000 users throughout the United States on a combined basis.

Headquarters for the combined entities will be located in Cincinnati with Dave Conway serving as president/CEO and the chairman of the board of the combined company. Tim O’Crowley will remain as the vice chairman of the board.

The merger, which is expected to close in the second quarter of 2006, is subject to customary closing conditions, including approval of the stockholders of Northstar. In connection with the stockholder approval, the companies intend to furnish to stockholders a joint proxy statement containing detailed information regarding the merger. Stockholders of each company are urged to read this document carefully when it becomes available.

About iSqFt:

Founded in 1993 as Construction Software Technologies, Inc., Cincinnati-based iSqFt is the construction industry's leading provider of online bid solicitation and preconstruction management services in the United States. Through strategic partnerships with such organizations as the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), the firm provides tens of thousands of general contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers with online tools and solutions to increase competitiveness through reduced costs and increased efficiency.

For more information about iSqFt, visit [www.isqft.com](http://www.isqft.com).

About Northstar Exchange Corporation:

Northstar Exchange Corporate provides an innovative platform to connect America's construction communities. With a wide array of unique and dynamic products and services, Northstar has emerged as a trusted industry partner, transcending the present day "Internet Planroom" to define a comprehensive business management solution. The firm brings contractors together with 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology by providing clients practical and effective tools that dramatically increase their operational efficiency, productivity, and most importantly, their bottom line.

For more information about Northstar Exchange, visit [www.cnsx.com](http://www.cnsx.com).

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