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## **Criterion Systems Wins 2009 SmartCEO Emerging Growth Award**

*Firm recognized as one of fastest growing companies in Greater Washington*

**Vienna, VA January 12, 2009** – Criterion Systems announced today it has received an *Washington SmartCEO* magazine/BDO Seidman LLP 2009 Emerging Growth Award, which recognizes emerging companies less than three years old in the Greater Washington area that have experienced significant revenue and employee growth.

Winners of the Emerging Growth Award will be celebrated alongside the area's 50 fastest growing companies at *SmartCEO's* 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Future 50 event – a soccer themed black-tie dinner on January 29, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda in Bethesda, MD. The keynote speaker for the event is Kevin Payne, President and Chief Executive Officer of DC United. The five emerging growth companies that receive the award are also profiled in the January issue of *SmartCEO* Magazine.

“Each Emerging Growth winner has demonstrated remarkable growth and traction in a short period of time,” said Craig Burris, Publisher at *SmartCEO* Magazine. “We are honored to recognize Criterion as one of the fastest growing emerging companies in Greater Washington – and have full confidence that we will be hearing even bigger and better things from our emerging growth winners in the years to come.”

*Washington SmartCEO* magazine is a regional “growing company” publication. *SmartCEO* believes that a “growing company” is really determined by the spirit, drive and dynamics of a company's owners and managers, rather than by the size of its building, the number of its employees, or its sales volume. Each month, a variety of businesses in the greater Washington and greater Baltimore areas turn to our pages for features, case-study advice and trend analysis, all with a uniquely local flavor. *SmartCEO* is read by more than 34,000 business owners in Baltimore and Washington.

“While Emerging Growth companies are young in conventional terms, each has already achieved astounding levels of success and is poised for even greater growth going forward,” adds Tony Cord, Managing Director, Strategic Development at BDO Seidman LLP, title sponsor for the 2009 Future 50 Program.

For a complete list of winners, visit [www.smartceo.com](http://www.smartceo.com). Nominations for Future 50/Emerging Growth closed mid-October and are expected to open mid-August for 2010 nominations.

### **About Criterion Systems**

Headquartered in Vienna, VA, Criterion Systems, Inc. is a leading provider of information technology services to Government and commercial clients. Criterion delivers full life-cycle consulting services in business and technology strategy, systems architecture and integration solutions, and managed services in highly classified environments, including: advanced search, Microsoft, managed services, and high performance computing solutions. The company serves the Department of Homeland Security, Intelligence and National Security, Department of Defense, Civilian Agency, and Commercial markets. For more information on Criterion and its services please visit [www.criterion-sys.com](http://www.criterion-sys.com).

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