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Northlake Data Center Chosen by Microsoft Corporation

New Facility Provides Competitive Advantage and Strategic Capacity

St. Louis, MO– November 7, 2007 – Ascent Corporation, a leading provider of comprehensive data center solutions, today announced that the Northlake Data Center has been selected by Microsoft Corporation, the worldwide leader of software products and services. Microsoft describes the data center as “where the Internet lives” since it will house tens of thousands of servers providing information and web-based applications to Internet users worldwide and support the growth of the company’s Internet service offerings such as Windows Live, Hotmail, and MSN Video. The facility, which is scheduled for completion in April 2008, will significantly expand Microsoft’s capacity and will aid the company in its worldwide roll-out in the online services space.

The Northlake Data Center, a joint venture between Ascent Corporation and real estate development firm The Koman Group, is Microsoft’s largest single data center. The Chicago-area facility is 550,000 square feet and is in direct proximity to a large power grid, enabling the Microsoft facility to yield a data center that is both powerful and energy-efficient.

“The Northlake Data Center validates Ascent’s data center design and development model, which affords customers maximum capacity scale, design flexibility, speed to market, economic efficiency and operational control,” said Phil Horstmann, CEO, Ascent Corp. “Partnering with The Koman Group on this project enabled us to combine our data center expertise with Koman’s real estate development experience to develop one of the most powerful and efficient data centers to date.”

“The Northlake Data Center will serve as an important component in the continued growth of Microsoft’s online services. Maintaining a state-of-the-art data center is fundamental to our business as users increasingly access our enhanced services through the Internet,” said Microsoft Data Center Senior Director, Mike Manos. “Ascent’s expertise in infrastructure engineering and development, location selection, and site development made the Northlake Data Center location an ideal choice for this endeavor.”

With a dedicated utility sub-station on site, the Ascent design includes a dedicated utility sub-station on site that will enable leading operational controls and efficiencies over the delivery of utility power to the facility in areas including engineering, access, planning and operating costs. These controls, combined with a direct transmission-grade connection to the public power utility,

will enable the data center to realize highly-efficient energy delivery and take advantage of significantly lower operating costs.

About Ascent

Ascent Corporation is a leading provider of comprehensive solutions for the planning, design, engineering, development, and operation of data centers and other mission critical facilities. Headquartered in Saint Louis, MO, Ascent specializes in powerful, efficient, and technologically advanced mission critical facilities and offers clients a broad range of delivery models spanning shell & core, build-to-suit, turnkey, and outsourced critical systems operations.

Founded in 1998, Ascent provides a full spectrum of fast track services that include project programming, design management, facility assessment, development and construction management, commissioning, and ongoing maintenance operations. Today, Ascent focuses on providing clients with innovative solutions and services yielding the highest levels of operational autonomy, efficiency, and control. Ascents clients include some of the most demanding mission critical organizations spanning multiple industries, Fortune 500 firms, and service providers.