



**StarTex Power's Founding Partners Marcie & Robert Zlotnik Named Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2008 Award Finalists in Houston & Gulf Coast Area**

**HOUSTON, May 15, 2008** – StarTex Power, a leading Texas-based retail electricity provider, announced today that its founding partners Marcie Zlotnik, Chairman and COO, and Robert Zlotnik, President and CEO, are finalists for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2008 Award in the Houston & Gulf Coast Area.

According to Ernst & Young LLP, the awards program recognizes entrepreneurs who demonstrate extraordinary success in the areas of innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. The Zlotnik's were selected as finalists from nearly 400 nominations by a panel of independent judges. Award winners will be announced at a special gala event on Thursday, June 19, 2008 at the InterContinental Houston Hotel.

“We are honored to be named finalists in such a prestigious award program like Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year®,” said Robert Zlotnik. “With the hard work of our entire team, we have built StarTex Power into a well-respected and accomplished organization, and it is fulfilling to know that others recognize our achievements.”

The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year awards program celebrates its 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary this year. The program has expanded to recognize business leaders in over 135 cities in 50 countries throughout the world.

Regional award winners are eligible for consideration for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year national program. Award winners in several national categories, as well as the overall national Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year award winner, will be

announced at the annual awards gala in Palm Springs, California on November 15, 2008. The awards are the culminating event of the Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum, the nation's most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies.

### **Sponsors**

Founded and produced by Ernst & Young LLP, the Entrepreneur Of The Year awards are pleased to have the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and SAP America as national sponsors.

In the Houston & Gulf Coast Area, sponsors include Bowne of Houston, Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P., Lockton Companies, LLC, Longnecker & Associates and the *Houston Business Journal*. Regional Patrons are Pierpont Communications, Inc. and Spur Digital Marketing.

### **About StarTex Power**

StarTex Power is a Texas-based and Texas-owned Retail Electric Provider. Our management team has over 60 years of experience in the deregulated utility industry. At StarTex Power we are committed to establishing the highest standards in the industry with competitive prices, easy to understand billing, as well as superior customer service. To find out more information on StarTex Power visit their web site at [www.StarTexPower.com](http://www.StarTexPower.com).

### **About Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur Of The Year**

Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur Of The Year is the world's most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs. The award makes a difference through the unique way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global award of its kind, Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 135 cities in 50 countries.

### **About Ernst & Young**

Ernst & Young is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. Worldwide, our 130,000 people are united by our shared values and an unwavering commitment to quality. We make a difference by helping our people, our clients and our wider communities achieve potential.

For more information, please visit [www.ey.com](http://www.ey.com).

Ernst & Young refers to the global organization of member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients.

This news release has been issued by Ernst & Young LLP, a member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited.

###