

Brightstar Corporation Founder R. Marcelo Claire Named 2003 Hispanic Entrepreneur of the Year

MIAMI - November 25, 2003 - At a gala in Los Angeles, Brightstar's founder, president and chief executive officer R. Marcelo Claire was named the 2003 Hispanic Entrepreneur of the Year by Hispanic Business magazine. The event, hosted by Hispanic Business magazine, honored the top Hispanic entrepreneurs in the country.

Claire was selected as the overall Hispanic entrepreneur and also honored as Entrepreneur of the year in the Infobusiness category, one of five award's subcategories.

According to Jesus Chavarria, editor and founder of Hispanic Business, "Marcelo's achievements in building Brightstar into an international business with sales approaching \$1 billion annually embodies the economic vibrancy and resourcefulness of the Hispanic community."

Chavarria continued, "He is a model and a vision for Hispanics everywhere."

The entrepreneur of the year awards, now in their 13th year, recognize entrepreneurial achievement in several key economic areas including identifying the top entrepreneur of the year. Winners were judged on their company's financial performance, management skills, employee development and encouragement of entrepreneurship.

This marks the acknowledgement of Claire's leadership for the second year in a row by Hispanic Business. In the magazine's 2002 awards program, Claire was honored as winner in the rising star category.

Claire has been recognized for his entrepreneurial spirit from several other business organizations including the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award in 2001.

Brightstar was founded in Miami in 1997 and has since grown to a global organization with 20 facilities in 16 countries. The company provides distribution and value added services to the wireless industry.

Brightstar Corp. is a privately-held, minority-owned company that has achieved extraordinary organic growth; almost doubling its revenues each year since its founding in October 1997-\$14 million in 1997, \$73 million in 1998, \$140 million in 1999, \$355 million in 2000, \$631 million in 2001 and \$849 million in revenues in 2002. The company expects to exceed \$1.1billion in fiscal 2003.