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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ISSA & BSCAI Celebrate 2009 North American Occupational Safety and Health Week

Lincolnwood, IL, USA—ISSA, the worldwide cleaning industry association, along with alliance partner the Building Service Contractors Association International (BSCAI), is joining with the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to increase public awareness of the importance of workplace safety and health during North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week 2009. The celebration, which takes place today through May 9, kicks off with today's events at the U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., as well as others throughout the country.

Aimed at increasing the focus of employers, employees, and the general public on the importance of preventing injuries and illnesses in the workplace, NAOSH Week is presented by OSHA and the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE). The theme of NAOSH Week 2009 is "Safety Means Always Coming Home," and participants hope to carry the message that safety in the workplace is not only good for business, but can help save lives. In 2007, almost 5,500 people died as a result of injuries and illnesses suffered on the job.

"ISSA is proud to once again be an active supporter of the North American Occupational Safety and Health Week, and we are happy to work with BSCAI to spread awareness of workplace-safety resources among our members," said ISSA President Bob Stahurski. "This remains of paramount importance, and we will continue to work together to do whatever it takes to reduce the incidence of workplace injuries and illnesses in our industry."

Supporting NAOSH Week is the latest example of how the ISSA/BSCAI alliance is working to create increased value for both memberships. Specifically, ISSA and BSCAI are partnering to share information about workplace-safety and health issues and to encourage all member companies to take this opportunity to review practices that reduce occupational injury and illness.

Numerous resources are available in conjunction with NAOSH Week. A "Safety on the Job" promotional poster, featuring the artwork of various children, as well as other complimentary workplace-health-and-safety resource materials are available from ASSE at www.asse.org/newsroom/naosh09/index.php. This Web site also features safety tips, including an especially timely one on pandemic influenza prevention, and various health-and-safety brochures.

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Supporting NAOSH Week also exemplifies how ISSA and OSHA work together to increase an understanding of the benefits of investing in occupational safety and health; raise awareness of the role and contribution of safety-and-health practitioners; and reduce workplace injuries and illnesses by encouraging the implementation of new workplace-safety and health initiatives. SSA and OSHA have enjoyed a formal alliance since August 2005.

In conjunction with the alliance, ISSA has created a one-of-a-kind Web network dedicated exclusively to the protection of the health and safety of workers in the cleaning industry. The ISSA Safety and Health Portal, located at www.issa.com/osha, offers nine topic pages focusing on: Bloodborne Pathogens; Cleaning Chemicals in the Workplace (Hazard Communication); Injury & Illness Recordkeeping; OSHA Assistance for Cleaning Industry; Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); Slips, Trips, and Falls in the Workplace; and the latest additions dedicated to Small Business Resources, Spanish Resources, and Warehouse Safety.

Each page provides detailed information on regulatory-compliance obligations, plus tips and resources for creating and maintaining a safe and healthy environment for employees. Additionally, there are direct links to various compliance resources, such as regulatory summaries, white papers, sample programs and plans, frequently asked questions, and checklists.

By working side by side with OSHA, ISSA believes it is uniquely positioned to provide crucial safety information to employers in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

About BSCAI

Founded in 1965, BSCAI has become the trade association of the building-service industry, representing a worldwide network of more than 2,000 member companies from across the United States and 30 other countries that provide cleaning, facility-maintenance, and other related services to building owners and managers. The association provides educational programs, publications, video-training programs, seminars, and networking opportunities, all developed specifically for the building-service-contracting industry. For more information, please visit www.bscai.org.

About ISSA

The leading trade association for the cleaning industry worldwide, ISSA has a membership that includes more than 5,500 distributor, manufacturer, manufacturer representative, building service contractor, in-house service provider, and associated service members. ISSA offers the industry's largest cleaning shows in conjunction with Amsterdam RAI under the brand name ISSA/INTERCLEAN[®], the popular Web site www.issa.com, educational products, industry standards, periodicals, and legislative and regulatory services that specifically focus on the professional cleaning industry.

The association is headquartered in Lincolnwood, IL, USA, with regional offices in Amsterdam, Netherlands; Leicester, United Kingdom; Monterrey, Mexico; Singapore; Shanghai, China; and Warsaw, Poland. ISSA also works with more than 75 associations, alliances, and government agencies around the world to represent the cleaning industry. For more information, visit www.issa.com.

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