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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ‘Champion of Internet’, Jimmy Wales, Founder, Wikipedia to Contribute to ITO America

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**June 23, 2008-** ITO America is proud to announce that Jimmy Wales, Founder, Wikipedia, will participate in an exclusive podcast and Q & A session. The podcast will be featured on ITOAmerica.com, the leading business technology website that has recently re-launched with a new look and updated resource centers.

Glenn Willis, Publisher-in-Chief, ITO, says that the contributions of Jimmy are anticipated by many, adding, “Jimmy’s unique approach to creating online content is a model by which a large portion of Web 2.0 has been designed. We’re looking forward to bringing this type of fundamental insight to our readers and website visitors.”

Jimmy Wales is an American entrepreneur known for his role in the creation and promotion of Wikipedia, a free, online, open content encyclopedia. In January 2001, Wales started Wikipedia.org; the success of the project has helped popularize a trend in web development that IT professionals refer to as Web 2.0., a focus that aims to facilitate creativity, collaboration, and sharing among users. As Wikipedia expanded and its public profile grew, Wales took on the role of the project’s spokesperson and promoter through speaking engagements and media appearances.

In interviews, Jimmy has explained that the drive behind Wikipedia was to establish a free access to encyclopedic knowledge for every person. Today, Wikipedia has more than a million articles in English, nearly 10 times as many as exist in Britannica and that number doubles each year. According to Time Magazine, ‘Today, Wales is celebrated as a champion of Internet-enabled egalitarianism.’

Wales has also been recognized as the one of the World Economic Forum’s ‘Young Global Leaders’ of 2007, a recipient of the ‘TIME 100 Award’ in 2006, and was named one of the world’s most influential people in the ‘Scientists & Thinkers’ category.

The podcast session will be hosted by Willis and serve as an extension of the upcoming ITOAmerica.com feature on Web 2.0. To download past podcast sessions with Fortune 1000 CIOs and read exclusive executive insights, please visit [www.itoamerica.com](http://www.itoamerica.com).

### **About Wikipedia**

Wikipedia was founded as an offshoot of Nupedia, a project developed to produce a free encyclopedia. Wikipedia is a registered trademark of the nonprofit Wikimedia Foundation, which has created an entire family of free-context projects. All of the text in Wikipedia, and most of the images and other content, is covered by the GNU Free Documentation License. Contributions remain the property of their creators, while the GFDL license ensures the content is freely distributed and reproducible.

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