***The 2012 U.S. Disability Matters Awards Banquet & Conference has Expanded!***

**MENDHAM, NJ** (10/31/11) -- Springboard Consulting LLC announces its Sixth Annual Disability Matters Awards Banquet and Conference, to be held Wednesday and Thursday, April 18-19, 2012 at Prudential Financial’s headquarters in Newark, New Jersey.

Thanks to our host, Prudential, we have expanded this most important corporate event to two days, allowing for even more information and best practices to be shared. For example, 2012’s event will include a special session on current U.S. legislation featuring speakers from the EEOC, OPM, OFCCP and ODEP, and another on Veterans issues and opportunities. The expanded event will include an awards banquet at the nationally acclaimed New Jersey Performing Arts Center, which will include a special senior executive reception and will feature two keynote speakers, Chai Feldblum, U.S. EEOC Commissioner and John Crowley. John is best known as the founder of several biotech companies devoted to curing genetic diseases and as the subject of both the book, The Cure: How a Father Raised $100 Million – And Bucked the Medical Establishment – In a Quest to Save His Children and the movie, Extraordinary Measures.

The 2012 conference will also feature two new award categories:

1. Disability Champion - recognizing a corporate executive, manager or associate whose advocacy, commitment and action in support of mainstreaming disability in their workforce, workplace and/or marketplace has greatly contributed to their organization’s success.
2. Employer of Choice - in consideration of companies that have taken their prior Disability Matters award-winning initiatives to a level providing complete synergy between mission and achievement.

“We are very pleased and honored that Prudential, a previous recipient of the Disabilities Matters Award, is hosting the 2012 event,” said Nadine Vogel, President of Springboard Consulting LLC. “Their ‘Special Needs Solution …For All Ages®’ program demonstrates the company’s dedication to the education and support of consumers who have a child or other dependent with special needs.”

We are also pleased to announce the companies joining Prudential as sponsors in support of this most important event:

Titanium: Dell, Inc.

Platinum: KPMG, LLP

Gold: Colgate-Palmolive Company, Genentech, HSBC, and Marsh & McLennan Companies

Silver: EMC Corporation and The Procter & Gamble Company

Bronze: CSX Corporation, Inc., IBM, PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP, PSEG, and Visa

Companies interested in becoming a sponsor, purchasing tickets, and/or applying for one of these prestigious awards, honoring outstanding commitment to the disabled community in the areas of Workforce, Workplace and/or Marketplace, will find additional information, including prior year honorees by visiting <http://www.consultspringboard.com/category/disability-matters-2012-us/> .

For additional information contact: Jill Frankel: 973-813-7260 x106 or Jill@consultspringboard.com

Prudential Financial, Inc. (NYSE: PRU), a financial services leader, has operations in the United States, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. Prudential’s diverse and talented employees are committed to helping individual and institutional customers grow and protect their wealth through a variety of products and services, including life insurance, annuities, retirement-related services, mutual funds, investment management, and real estate services. In the U.S., Prudential’s iconic Rock symbol has stood for strength, stability, expertise and innovation for more than a century. For more information, please visit http://www.news.prudential.com.