

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**LINKAGE TO HONOR WAL-MART WITH WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP EMPOWERMENT AWARD™**

**Burlington, MA (November 10, 2011)** – [Linkage](#) will honor [Wal-Mart](#) for their significant investment and commitment to the economic progression and advancement of women globally at its [Women in Leadership Institute™](#), taking place November 13-16 at the Chicago Fairmont. Wal-Mart will receive the *Women's Leadership Empowerment Award™* during an awards ceremony luncheon on Monday, November 14. In September, Wal-Mart announced its *Global Women's Economic Empowerment Initiative*, a \$20 billion effort to empower and to promote women workers and women-owned businesses around the globe. Last year in the United States, Wal-Mart spent \$2.5 billion with women's businesses.

“We are thrilled to recognize the efforts of Wal-Mart to empower women globally,” said Susan Brady, Linkage's Vice President of Global Programs. “We are committed to advancing the development of high potential leaders worldwide by recognizing such efforts and by offering a transformational growth opportunity for the women leaders attending our event.”

*The Global Women's Economic Empowerment Initiative* includes training designed to assist 60,000 women in developing the skills necessary to become more active decision-makers in their work and personal lives. Wal-Mart will also expand its retail training programs to include 200,000 women worldwide and will work with major professional service firms and merchandise suppliers with over \$1 billion in sales to increase women and minority representation on its accounts.

Linkage works with leaders and leadership teams worldwide to build organizations that produce superior results. For over 25 years, they have delivered on this promise by strategically aligning leadership, talent, and culture within organizations globally. They do this by providing strategic consulting on leadership development and talent management topics and through our learning institutes, skill-building workshops, tailored assessment services, and executive coaching.

*Linkage is headquartered in Burlington, Massachusetts with operations in Atlanta, Boston, New York, San Francisco and outside the U.S. in Athens, Bangalore, Brussels, Buenos Aires, Hamilton, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Johannesburg, Kuala Lumpur, Kuwait City, Mexico City, Rome, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Vilnius.*

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