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SIM Study: IT-Business Alignment Continues to be Top Concern for IT Executives
Recruiting and retaining top talent also sizable concern

CHICAGO – CEOs, CIOs, and top enterprise managers continue to cite IT-business alignment as the number one hurdle they face. That's according to a survey commissioned by the Society for Information Management (SIM, www.simnet.org).

Rounding out the top 10 concerns in SIM's annual survey, the list includes:

- 2) Building business skills in IT
- 3) IT strategic planning
- 4) Attracting new IT professionals
- 5) Making better use of information
- 6) Manage change
- 7) Reduce the cost of doing business
- 8) Improve IT quality
- 9) Retaining IT professionals
- 10) Security and privacy

Nearly three hundred responses were gathered from senior IT leaders within SIM's membership base and the community at-large.

Last year's number one-ranked concern -- attracting, developing, and retaining IT professionals -- was broken into separate questions for this year's survey to determine whether attracting or retaining employees is of higher importance.

Antivirus protection ranks at the top when it comes to applications and technologies of importance to IT executives. It was followed by business intelligence, continuity planning/disaster recovery, business process management, and server virtualization.

The top concerns for IT executives are only a small part of the comprehensive SIM study. More results from the research – including budgeting and staffing projections for 2009 – will be unveiled during SIM's annual conference, *SIMposium*, taking place November 9-12 in Orlando, FL.

The *SIMposium* conference, which is expected to attract more than 700 attendees from around the country, is designed to bring together IT leaders for formal and informal opportunities to discuss business issues and identify industry best practices. For more information, visit www.simnet.org.

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Established in 1968, the Society for Information Management (SIM) is the premier network for IT leaders comprised of more than 3,600 members including CIOs, senior IT executives, prominent academicians, consultants, and other IT leaders. SIM is a community of thought leaders who share experiences and apply rich intellectual capital, and who explore future IT direction. Through its 31 Chapters, SIM provides resources and programs inspired by IT leaders for IT leaders that enable CIOs to further develop the leadership capabilities of themselves and the key and emerging leaders in their organizations. SIM provides the collective voice to advocate policy and legislation on behalf of the IT profession across industries.