Partners Affiliated for Exploring Technology

Contact:

Patrick P. Irestone

Vice President, New Business Development

Star Tribune 612-673-7285

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ON FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1994

## MEDIA COMPANIES ANNOUNCE PAFET RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

Minneapolis, Mn.--March 18, 1994--Six media companies with major newspaper interests have announced their plans to create a research consortium to develop and evaluate technology information that supports the creation of new media products and services. The consortium will be called Pafet.

A. H. Beio Corporation
Central Newspapers, Inc.
Cowles Media Company
Freedom Communications, Inc.
McClatchy Newspapers Inc.
Pulitzer Publishing Company

The name Pafet is an acronym for a statement of the consortium's focus: Partners Affiliated for Exploring Technology. The member companies of Pafet will be:

A. H. Belo Corporation Dallas, Texas

Central Newspapers, Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana

Cowles Media Company Minneapolis, Minneapolis, Minneapolis

Freedom Communications, Inc. Irvine, California

McClatchy Newspapers, Inc. Sacramento, California

Pulitzer Publishing Company St. Louis, Missouri

**Operating Committee** 

Dean Blythe VP-Business Development The Dallas Morning News 214/977-8246

Howard Finberg
Sr. Editor/Info. Technology
Phoenix Newspapers, Inc.
602/271-8248

Patrick P. Irestone VP-New Business Development Star Tribune, Minneapoiis 612/673-7285

Dick lablonski VP-Information Systems The Orange County Register 714/565-3660

David Lipman
Choiman, Pulitzer/2000
Pulitzer Publishing Company
314/340-8429

Sylvia Chavez Sitters Asst. to the Executive VP McClatchy Newspapers, Inc. 916/321-1932

Alan Flaherry
Executive Coordinator
2304 South Beverly Clan Blvd.
Suite 201
Los Angeles, CA 90064
Telephone: 310-286-9684
Telefax: 310-236-9685

--More--

"Our purpose is to maintain and strengthen our competence in collecting, packaging and marketing information, making use of the best of evolving technologies available. As a group we can invest in research on new information technology that larger companies are pursuing," states James N. Rosse, president and chief executive officer of Freedom Communications, Inc., who will be the first chairman of the Pafet management committee.

According to Rosse, "Pafet will give us a mechanism for obtaining and exchanging research information related to new technology across our organizations. We believe that a modest investment in such joint research and information analysis will enable each company to make better individual decisions."

The Pafet management committee will be composed of Rosse and the chief executives of the consortium companies: Robert W. Decherd of A. H. Belo Corporation; Frank Russell of Central Newspapers, Inc.; David Cox of Cowles Media Company; Erwin Potts of McClatchy Newspapers, Inc.; and Michael E. Pulitzer of Pulitzer Publishing Company.

Patrick P. Irestone, vice president for new business development of the Star Tribune, representing Cowles Media Company, will serve as chairman of Pafet's operating committee. Dean Blythe, vice president for business development at The Dallas Morning News, representing A. H. Belo Corporation, will also serve on the operating committee and will be Pafet's treasurer. The other members of the operating committee will be: Howard Finberg of Phoenix Newspapers, Inc. representing Central Newspapers, Inc.;

Dick Jablonski of the Orange County Register representing Freedom Communications, Inc.; Sylvia Chavez Sitters of McClatchy Newspapers, Inc.; and David Lipman of Pulitzer/2000 representing Pulitzer Publishing Company. Alan Flaherty will coordinate Pafet's program and provide services through his Los Angeles based firm, ComPlan Incorporated.

The member companies publish 7 of the 50 largest newspapers in the United States. The consortium members have an aggregate daily newspaper circulation of more than 3 million copies and combined 1992 revenues of more than \$2.5 billion. Consortium members also have interests in television, consumer publishing, business publishing, on-line information and print-product delivery services.