



PADGETT BUSINESS SERVICES® WHERE YOUR SUCCESS TAKES ROOTSM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Accounting Today honors Padgett Business Services® President Roger Harris in
“2008 Top 100 Most Influential People in Accounting” List - Harris Cited as a
Leader in the Industry’s “New Frontiers”**

ATHENS, Ga. (Oct. 9, 2008) — Padgett Business Services®, a leading franchisor of financial reporting and tax consulting services to small business owners, today announced that *Accounting Today* has named Padgett President Roger Harris to its "2008 Top 100 Most Influential People in Accounting" list.

This year’s list, entitled “New Frontiers”, focuses on the abounding changes in the accounting industry and details how the individuals featured in the Top 100 are impacting and advancing the field. The list includes not only accounting professionals but also government officials and regulators.

“The profession stands poised to cross the threshold into largely unexplored territories, such as the inevitable convergence of U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards, new technologies, a potential revamp of the Tax Code and dizzying changes in workforce demographics,” said *Accounting Today* editor Bill Carlino. “This year’s Top 100 People roster includes many of those who are spearheading the profession’s journey into these brave new worlds.”

Padgett Business Services® is at the forefront of this journey, educating policy-makers and shaping legislation in Washington. Through the efforts of the Padgett Foundation, Padgett Business Services® is actively participating to ensure that new regulations enhance the accounting profession; Harris recently testified on behalf of Padgett in the IRS hearings on one of the most pressing issues in the accounting industry today - preparer penalty rules.

However, the primary focus of Padgett’s work in Washington is to shape legislation so that it benefits America’s small business owners. Acting on behalf of Padgett’s small business clients throughout North America and associations of tax practitioners, Harris

has testified several times on IRS reform and has testified before the Senate Small Business Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee. He has also been featured as an expert panelist on *Tax Talk Today*, the IRS monthly web-cast.

Accounting Today describes Harris as “a veteran tax policy advisor to the IRS and Congress, his influence and insight are welcomed in Washington as well as on Main Street.”

This is not the first time that Padgett Business Services® has appeared on the “Top 100 Most Influential People in Accounting” list; Vice Chairman Dan Sautner has also been honored on the list and *Accounting Today* has recognized Padgett in the past with the following citations: Top 100 Firms, Top 10 Fastest Growing Firms in America (without merger for growth), Merit Award for Achievement in Client Service, Gold Medal Award for Achievement in Client Service.

Not only is Padgett recognized as a leader in the accounting industry, but they are also recognized as a leading international franchisor. Padgett has been ranked as a top franchise by *Entrepreneur*, *Success*, and *Income Opportunities* magazines, and was also ranked in *Franchise Business Review*'s Franchise 50 2008 Franchisee Satisfaction Awards.

For more information about Padgett Business Services® or for franchise opportunities please visit www.smallbizpros.com or call (800) 723-4388.

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About Padgett Business Services®

For over 40 years, Padgett Business Services® has catered to the individual needs of small business owners through a network of 400 local owner-operated offices. By way of personal relationships and efficient service, Padgett provides “peace of mind” to its clients by helping them focus on operating their businesses more successfully. Padgett offers business advice and consultation, tax consultation and preparation, government reporting compliance, financial reporting, complete payroll services, and other services important to small businesses.