



MEDIA RELEASE

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HillSouth founder is 2007 SBA Young Entrepreneur for the Southeast Region

FLORENCE – Robby Hill, 24, is the 2007 SBA Young Entrepreneur for both South Carolina and the eight-state Southeast region. The founder and CEO of HillSouth, LLC in Florence will be honored at the 2007 Salute to Small Business at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center on Wednesday, April 11.

The comparisons between Hill and Bill Gates are unavoidable: Both Gates and Hill began as computer whiz kids who used remarkable business acumen to develop software companies with global impact.

By six years old, Hill had set up an invoicing system on his grandfather's old computer for his aunt's flower shop; by fourth grade, he was running his own small classroom supply business complete with student employees, investing the money he earned into technology magazines. In the seventh grade, he was teaching computer classes to adults under the name Hill Computing Services. In the tenth grade, he had his own office at Florence-Darlington Technical College as their Web administrator.

Hill started HillSouth, an information technology solutions company, in 1999 at the age of 16. Since then, HillSouth has expanded its services, which include Web design, network monitoring, computer product sales, marketing assistance and round-the-clock computer support services; HillSouth has also earned the designation of small business partner from Microsoft and HP. In keeping with its small business roots, HillSouth meets the networking needs of the nation's small businesses.

In addition to local clients, such as Webster Rogers and Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, and national clients, HillSouth has garnered a global clientele, thanks to a partnership with Fortune 500 firm CDW SolutionEdge, one of the largest data processing firms in the world.

Hill was nominated by Gerry Madison, Director of the Small & Minority Business Division of the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce. He resides in Timmonsville.

The SBA South Carolina District Office is holding the awards ceremony at the Salute to Small Business on Wednesday, April 11 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Please call Susan Chavis at (803) 765-5373 for more information.

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