



***For Immediate Release
February 25, 2009***

Contact TREO:

Laura Shaw, Sr. Vice President, Corporate & Community Affairs
(520) 243-1940 office, (520) 609-5972 cell or laura.shaw@treoaz.org

**TREO Research Finds More Than 2,200 Open Positions Available
in the Tucson Region Within Next 12 Months**

Tucson, AZ (February 25, 2009) – As part of multiple strategies to address the economic crisis, Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities, Inc. (TREO) recently embarked on a weeklong survey of the top 170 local companies to gather data on those planning to hire new employees within the next year.

Nearly 100 companies responded to the survey, reporting a total of more than 2,200 open positions anticipated to be filled within the next 12 months. Industries with the largest number of open positions include manufacturing, logistics, aerospace, construction and professional services.

Of the open positions, 60% are defined as high-skilled, requiring technical training or bachelor's degree to be considered for the job.

"While much focus currently is on the number of layoffs and business closures, the news is not all 'doom and gloom.' There are jobs in Tucson, and at TREO we are working to improve the connectivity between our companies that are hiring and those looking for jobs," said Joe Snell, TREO President and CEO.

For members of the media who would like to interview companies who plan to hire this year, a list is available upon request.

For people interested in searching for available jobs, visit www.treoaz.org/Tucson-Job-Portal.aspx.

About TREO (Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities, Inc.)

TREO's mission is to provide insight, infrastructure, resources and development efforts to accelerate economic prosperity throughout the Southern Arizona region. TREO supports the creation of new business, the growth and expansion of existing businesses, and the attraction of companies that offer high-impact jobs and share the community's values. For more information, visit www.treoaz.org.

###