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GeoPraxis' Advanced Technology Revolutionizes Home Energy Rating Industry

IDEA Server™ Technology Streamlines EnergyCheckup's Energy Audit Process

San Francisco, Calif., May 8, 2001 / -- EnergyCheckup, the rapidly expanding energy efficiency division of LandAmerica, a \$2 billion real estate services firm, has revolutionized the home energy rating services (HERS) industry by joining GeoPraxis' advanced IDEA Server™ technology with traditional home inspections. EnergyCheckup's proprietary system streamlines the typically cumbersome and expensive three- to four-hour energy audit process to an additional 30 minutes to a normal home inspection, while still maintaining accuracy. This allows EnergyCheckup to significantly reduce costs, and more rapidly meet market demand in an era of threatened curtailments and skyrocketing energy costs.

Beginning in late 1999 with contracts for Southern California Gas and Southern California Edison, EnergyCheckup delivered more HERS audits in the first 12 months in just six counties than were performed in the entire United States in the prior year. "With more than 25,000 residential energy audits delivered to date," leader of EnergyCheckup's veteran management team and former CEO of Inspectech, Donald Bonnell concluded, "we are by far the largest provider of HERS audits in the country. GeoPraxis' IDEA Server provides us with competitive advantage in a critical part of our business"

EnergyCheckup's HERS software is based on the IDEA Server™ technology developed by the California-based energy engineering software company, [GeoPraxis, Inc.](#) In April of this year, EnergyCheckup announced official approval of its HERS system by the Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET), after passing rigorous engineering verification tests and computer simulations mandated by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), and RESNET. EnergyCheckup also meets criteria of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and is an ENERGY STAR Partner with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ENERGY STAR Homes™ Program.

"Our market-based approach offers a tremendous cost advantage to homeowners and a great opportunity for Home Inspectors," observes Bonnell. "The national market for these much-needed services has been constrained by burdensome procedures and high costs for consumers," Bonnell observed. "We have solved those problems, and our track record demonstrates the potential."

John Kennedy, CTO and founder of GeoPraxis, said, "IDEA Server™ was designed to provide state of the art tools for the residential energy analysis marketplace. The fact that market-leading companies such as EnergyCheckup are adopting GeoPraxis' technologies for competitive advantage in today's hotter than hot energy marketplace is truly exciting. We expect that the current energy crisis in California, and new pressures from the mass market residential customer will pressure utilities and home services companies across the country to adopt new technologies such as GeoPraxis' IDEA Server™."

About EnergyCheckup

EnergyCheckup's extensive real estate industry contacts and unique position in the market enable it to deliver quality residential energy audits more cost-effectively and with a much higher potential for transforming this important market. EnergyCheckup is the result of a strategic alliance formed in 1999 between Inspectech, the west's largest home inspection company and [GeoPraxis, Inc.](#) Inspectech merged with the largest employee-based appraisal and real estate services firm in the nation, PRIMIS, Inc., in January 2000. Subsequently, LandAmerica acquired PRIMIS in October 2000. LandAmerica is a publicly-held company with 1999 revenues in excess of \$2 billion and a 30% market share in the industry. PRIMIS remains in operation under its own name as the Appraisal Services arm of the company, and Inspectech continues as "Inspectech – a service of LandAmerica". Plans are underway to spin off EnergyCheckup as a separate operating company known as EnergyCheckup, Inc.

About GeoPraxis

GeoPraxis, Inc. combines expertise in energy engineering, market research, and software development to meet the rigorous research and development needs of some of the most sophisticated resource companies, research organizations, and policy-making bodies in the world. GeoPraxis excels in developing partnerships to commercialize energy efficiency technology solutions across a variety of industries. At the forefront of Internet-delivered engineering technology, GeoPraxis is dedicated to providing utilities, contractors, and facility services companies with the tools they need to cost-effectively operate the buildings they manage. IDEA Server™ applications are completely scalable to a client's needs. Web applications can be stand-alone or integrated with legacy systems to develop custom solutions. Customers include EnergyCheckup, EMCOR Facilities Services, Southern California Gas, California Energy Commission, and Southern California Edison.
