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**SURVEY REVEALS HR DIRECTORS WANT MORE EMPLOYEES  
TO HAVE COMPUTERS AT HOME**

*Yet 30 percent or more of employees may not have them*

**ATLANTA, Ga. (December 1, 2008)** – Nearly all (94.5 percent) of human resource professionals who participated in an industry survey say it is important for their employees to have home computers. Yet, one-fourth of them say that more than 30 percent of their employees don't have computers at home.

The random sample survey of HR professionals was administered by Purchasing Power at two industry conferences – the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Benefits Forum & Expo and the Society for Human Resource Management's (SHRM) 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Attendees were also asked why it is important for their employees to have computers at home and what solutions are available to provide that access.

When asked how important it is that their employees have a home computer, 58.9 percent of respondents said "very important," and an additional 35.6 percent said "somewhat important." However, 26.5 percent of HR professionals responding said they estimate that more than 30 percent of their employees do not have computers at home.

The survey was conducted by Atlanta-based [Purchasing Power](#), a full-service provider of voluntary employee purchase programs offering combined payroll deduction and automatic qualification for life-enhancing purchases such as computers, electronics and household appliances.

Having access to benefit information online is the most important reason for employees to have home computers, according to 81.5 percent of respondents. Also ranking high (both at 50.6 percent) as an important use for a home computer was improving skills of the employee through online education and accessing wellness programs and other health information.

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When asked if they have any solutions available for employees without home computers, 57.7 percent of respondents said they did not. Of the 42 percent of respondents who do, 28.5 percent said they have computer kiosks in the workplace for use on breaks and 27 percent have loaner laptops for take-home use. Only 16.6 percent reported they are offering computer purchase as a voluntary benefit, however.

“The survey echoes what we have seen as a growing trend -- access to home computers has expanded in recent years, but disparities still exist for those employees trying to acquire these essential, life-enhancing products during these unforgiving economic times,” said Elizabeth Halkos, vice president of sales and marketing for Purchasing Power. “This opens the door for HR professionals to offer timely and creative solutions through their voluntary benefits programs that give all employees a tangible work-life benefit at home through a simple payroll deduction program.”

#### **About Purchasing Power**

Purchasing Power, an Atlanta-based full-service provider of voluntary employee purchase programs, has an established reputation for offering unique voluntary employee benefit programs. The company is licensed in all 50 states as a reseller of personal computers, consumer electronics, and home appliances, maintaining relationships with the major manufacturers, as well as several resellers, distributors and other suppliers. For more information, visit [www.PurchasingPower.com](http://www.PurchasingPower.com).

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