



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HEADLINE: Polk County, Florida selects AST Corporation to provide Oracle E-Business Suite implementation services.**

Naperville, IL – After a formal system acquisition evaluation process, assisted by the experts of the Technology Consulting Services arm of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) organization; Polk County Florida chose Oracle's E-Business Suite as their ERP application solution and selected AST Corporation as the implementation partner.

Polk County, a recipient of GFOA's Budget Award and Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting Program, needed a solution to replace its old legacy systems and provide a unified enterprise-wide vision into all aspects of Finance, Human Resources and Payroll operations, enabling the county to respond quickly to changing business requirements and needs for the benefit of its citizens. The Oracle E-Business ERP Suite was selected along with AST's implementation services to realize the County's objectives.

Once the evaluation process was completed, the County Clerk wanted to get moving quickly. With rapid action on the part of the selection committee, Polk's Board of County Commissioners approved the contract with Oracle and AST just before Thanksgiving on November 22, 2005. AST's team of consultants has been on site since, to launch this major multi-faceted project. The first phase of the project, which includes the accounting and purchasing applications, is expected to go live by October 2006.

AST, an Oracle certified Advantage partner, was selected on the basis of its extensive State and Local government experience together with product expertise in Oracle's Public Sector financials, procurement, human resources, projects & grants payroll, advanced benefits and budgeting applications.

### **About Polk County**

Polk County, Florida, one of Florida's largest county's strategically located in the center of the peninsula, is known as the phosphate, water skiing and citrus capital of the world. With a rapidly growing population, Polk County has also become one of Florida's leading manufacturing and distribution hubs with its central location and highway connections. Polk County has become a priority location for national and international business.

### **About AST Corporation**

Established in 1995, Applications Software Technology (AST) Corporation is an Oracle Certified Advantage Partner, an Oracle University training and delivery partner, and a certified Oracle On-Demand implementation provider. AST offers professional consulting services to Oracle Applications users and serves industry-leading organizations in manufacturing, transportation, insurance, retailing, telecommunications and the public sector. Clients look to AST Corporation for assistance in business process redesign, project management, systems integration, systems administration and training.

For more information about AST Corporation please visit our web site at [www.astcorporation.com](http://www.astcorporation.com).