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HEADLINE: AST Corporation and Prophecy International sign a strategic business partner agreement focused on the utility industry.

Naperville, IL – AST Corporation and Prophecy International announce the recent signing of a business partner agreement focused on solutions for the Prophecy basis2® financial, billing and customer information system, which is dedicated exclusively to the global utilities industry.

Industry analysts agree that energy and utility firms will spend $93 billion in IT products and services, despite energy distribution costs which are rising as fast as the demand for service reliability. AST Corporation looks to Prophecy's Oracle-based basis2® for reliable new ways to deliver customer solutions faster, better and less expensively than larger and more complex stand-alone systems. By offering an Oracle-based solution from a single database, both AST Corporation and Prophecy International will combine their respective Oracle-specific strengths to the advantage of utility clients.

By combining AST Corporation's expertise in implementing Oracle E-Business Suite Applications and technologies with basis2® Oracle-based technology, utility clients can leverage Oracle E-Business integration, a flexible billing engine, and customer-centric browser based architecture that is web enabled and scalable to meet any growth challenges in the decades ahead.

About AST Corporation
Established in 1995, 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.

About Prophecy International
As a leading developer of financial, billing and customer information systems, Prophecy International helps utilities maximize revenue, care for customers and minimize costs. Outstanding technology is backed by proven systems that ensure a successful product, installation and post sale support. Time has proven that users of Prophecy products can rely on a system that will help them understand, control and expand their businesses.

About basis2®
Prophecy has over 10 years experience in the utilities industry and a comprehensive understanding of how the utility companies work. The BASIS suite is used by a growing number of Utilities in Australia, Asia, and the USA. It has been expanded and updated to become the basis2 suite of Billing and Customer Information Systems for the world wide utilities industry. It is function-rich and flexible for the regulated, transitioning and deregulated markets, allowing companies to successfully compete in this evolving industry. The basis2® Suite includes: Billing, and CIS, Customer Care, Event View, Service Orders, Oracle Integration, Biosolids recycling, and Industrial Waste.