



***** NEWS RELEASE *****

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Astia Honors Pam Marrone with Clean Tech Innovator Award

Awards Ceremony Spotlights Women Innovators and the Venture Firms who Support Them

SAN FRANCISCO (November 17, 2008) – At its 4th Annual Awards Dinner on November 20th, Astia will recognize exceptional women innovators and the investors and mentors who champion their successes. Marrone Organic Innovations is proud to announce that its Founder and CEO, Pam Marrone, will be among those honored by Astia as the recipient of the 2008 Clean Tech Innovator Award.

Astia is a unique, not-for-profit whose distinct focus and mission is to foster the full participation and leadership of women in entrepreneurship and as accelerators of high growth businesses. Astia provides innovative programs that ensure companies gain access to capital, achieve and sustain high-growth, and develop the executive leadership of the women on the founding team

“With 3% of venture capital being invested in women CEOs and only 5% more going to women founders, the cause to celebrate those who succeed is self evident”, stated Sharon Vosmek, CEO of Astia. “We’re proud to spotlight Pam Marrone as the exceptional and successful entrepreneur that she is.”

“Astia played an important role in my quest for constructive mentoring and venture funding. The quality of the women and the companies participating in Astia's programs is second to none,” said Pam Marrone upon learning of the accolade. “I am very honored to be selected for Astia's Cleantech Innovator award.”

Marrone Organic Innovations (MOI) is Pam Marrone’s third entrepreneurial endeavor in a career devoted to natural and integrated pest management solutions for agriculture. MOI discovers, develops and markets effective and environmentally responsible natural products that focus on unmet needs for weed, pest and plant disease management.

Earlier this year, MOI successfully closed its Series B \$11 million private round of financing led by Stuart Mill Venture Partners with co-investment from Contrarian Group. There was also significant participation from Series A investors One Earth Capital, Saffron Hill Ventures, Clean Pacific Ventures, Wavepoint Ventures and prominent local angel investors (including members of the Sierra and Sacramento Angels). The financing is enabling MOI to fund the development and commercialization of its pipeline of more than six natural pest management products.

To learn more about the Astia Awards Ceremony, visit: <http://www.astia.org/content/view/590/873/>
For all Astia Award winners, visit: <http://www.astia.org/content/view/1057/1099/>

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About Marrone Organic Innovations

Marrone Organic Innovations discovers, develops and markets effective and environmentally responsible products that fill unmet needs for weed, disease and pest management. Through a combination of in-licensed technology and its own R&D, MOI develops products that target markets needing better and safer solutions. MOI's own R&D finds naturally occurring microorganisms from unique habitats and develops them into products for controlling insects, weeds, nematodes and plant diseases. MOI has an impressive pipeline of new products, including two insecticides, two herbicides and a product for controlling invasive zebra and quagga mussels in waterways. MOI currently markets GreenMatch® Burndown Herbicide for weed control in organic crop production and Regalia® for control of fungal and bacterial diseases of both food and ornamental crops.

For more information, visit www.marroneorganicinnovations.com

About Astia

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Headquartered in Silicon Valley with programs in Silicon Valley, New York, and London, Astia is well positioned to work with start-ups from around the globe as they access venture capital. Astia's Venture Conferences, which commenced in 2003, have attracted 124 presenting companies that have raised over \$500 million and have returned over \$100 million to investors through M&A. The Astia conference has differentiated itself with an exceptional screening and qualification process that has resulted in greater than 60% of the presenting companies achieving funding or an exit within one year of the conference.

For more information, visit www.astia.org

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