

PRESS RELEASE

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Barter Emerges as Low-Cost Travel Solution for Small Business Owners
Business-to-Business Barter Networks Facilitate No-cash Vacations

Mesa, Ariz. (August 5, 2009) –As travel trends that save vacationers money gain popularity-- such as house swapping and staycations – some individuals are using organized barter organizations as their low-cost travel solution.

Luxury hotels and resorts nationwide have made headlines this summer for offering never-before-seen low room rates and special promotions. As rates start to rebound as fall and holiday seasons approach, many people are searching for ways to still travel while not having to spend a lot of cash. Small business owners in particular are paying for their upcoming vacations by using trade dollars. This means that they are bartering their company’s services, whether it be carpet cleaning, dental work or karate lessons, for vacation expenses ranging from hotel stays, rental properties, rental cars and transportation services, to adventure-based trips and cruises to the Caribbean, Alaska and the Mexican Riviera.

In Arizona, more than 550 members belong to Arizona Trade Exchange, Phoenix’s largest business-to-business trade network, and travel is a popular commodity. Members within the Arizona Trade Exchange have taken trips across the country, as well as visited international locales. With the increasing popular staycation concept, Arizona Trade Exchange’s local tourism-focused members include well-known hotel chains like Marriott and Carlson Brands, scenic golf courses, day spas, local tours and limousine rentals.

“Our members have taken vacations completely on trade, whether it be out of town or a local getaway,” said Rob Miller, president of Arizona Trade Exchange. “These business owners simply rack up enough trade dollars to go on the vacation of their dreams, and we take care of all the arrangements when they are ready to book the trip.”

Spending trade dollars beyond the Arizona Trade Exchange’s members is also an option for business owners looking to getaway. Because Arizona Trade Exchange is a member of the National Association of Trade Exchanges (NATE), Arizona Trade Exchange can facilitate bartering with other businesses within any trade organization that belongs to NATE. This, in turn, means that members have access to hotels, all-inclusive vacations and entertainment from around the nation.

Arizona Trade Exchange members can use earned trade dollars for any of the services offered by the over 550 members, including accounting services, fresh landscaping, printing costs, air conditioning and heating improvements, plumbing, pest control, IT needs, salon treatments, jewelry and dining out. Celebrating 10 years in the Valley, Arizona Trade Exchange is recognized for upholding the highest levels of integrity and quality in customer service and member selection. In addition to offering members a high trade value, Arizona Trade Exchange takes pride in maintaining a network of members with ideal geographic locations to make trading effortless.

For more information about Arizona Trade Exchange, visit www.arizonatradeexchange.com.

About Arizona Trade Exchange

Founded in 1999, Arizona Trade Exchange is the leading business-to-business trade exchange serving metro-Phoenix. With over 550 members and offices in the East and West Valley, Arizona Trade Exchange features a diverse portfolio of members ranging from home repair services and restaurants to attorneys and travel opportunities. Recognized for exceptional customer service and upholding the highest quality standards for member services and products, Arizona Trade Exchange offers business owners a unique tool to build their business. For more information, visit www.arizonatradeexchange.com or call (480) 633-9363.

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