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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **USCIS RELEASES NEW I-129 PETITION; INCORPORATES TECHSERVE ALLIANCE COMMENTS**

*Alexandria, VA, November 17, 2010* - U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) recently released the newly approved I-129 Form and I-129 Instructions, which is the form and instructions used to file H-1B Visa Petitions.

In response to TechServe Alliance led objections to the draft I-129 Form and Instructions, the final version dropped the highly intrusive requirement that firms, such as IT staffing companies that place H-1B beneficiaries at client sites, identify the client company name and address as well as the name, title and telephone number of a contact person. The original version had also sought to impose new attestations exclusively on IT staffing firms and others who place H-1B beneficiaries at third-party sites. TechServe Alliance and its members argued that there was no authority for such an inquiry under the controlling statute or regulations.

In the final version of the form and instructions, the data collection supplement now asks if the beneficiary will be placed off-site and if such placement will be in compliance with the statutory and regulatory requirements.

"While USCIS continues to be hostile towards IT staffing companies and their business model, I am heartened that the agency heeded a number of TechServe Alliance's objections and removed onerous and intrusive requirement in the final version of the petition and instructions," commented Mark Roberts, CEO TechServe Alliance. "While as an industry we fully support compliance with all bona fide statutory and regulatory requirements, we vehemently object and will oppose any attempt to impose extra-legal requirements on our companies."

The new version of the I-129 Form goes into effect on November 23, 2010. Both the current version and the new version will be accepted until December 21, 2010. Starting December 22, 2010, only the new version will be accepted.

TechServe Alliance is a collaboration of IT services firms, clients, consultants and suppliers dedicated to advancing excellence and ethics within the IT services industry. Hundreds of IT staffing, IT solutions and IT consulting firms and tens of thousands of affiliated professionals, count on TechServe Alliance to keep their leadership informed, engaged and connected. TechServe Alliance serves as the voice of the industry before the policymakers and the national and trade press. By providing access to the knowledge and best practices of an entire industry and tapping the "collective scale" of hundreds of companies, TechServe Alliance supports its members in the efficient delivery of best-in-class IT services for clients and exceptional professional opportunities for every IT consultant.

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### **ABOUT TechServe Alliance**

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