

Preparedness Pays Off for Northwest Federal and its Members

Disaster recovery drills will enable credit union to continue operations and member service from remote location.

Herndon, VA, August 20, 2007— Northwest Federal Credit Union (NWFCU) has conducted its third in a series of disaster recovery drills aimed at preparing staff to continue serving members despite local power outages, natural disasters, widespread epidemics, terrorist attacks or other unforeseen circumstances. Employees from the credit union's leadership team, communications department, human resources, online banking, information technology, member services and lending divisions reported to the organization's Maryland-based remote operations facility to tests systems and readiness procedures.

According to NWFCU President and CEO Juri Valdov, the lessons learned from recent history, including homeland security initiatives and influenza precautions, have been the driving force behind creating the credit union's comprehensive preparedness plan. As a partner in the Ongoing Operations Credit Union Service Organization, a collaboration of credit unions and service providers dedicated to maintaining credit union business continuity, NWFCU has established the physical facilities, staff training and data systems to be able to quickly affect service recovery and delivery from a remote location.

"We are making every effort to ensure that should a disaster strike, our members can depend upon the security of their funds, the safety of their personal financial information and the least interruption in our ability to service their needs," says Valdov.

Headquartered in Herndon, Virginia, NWFCU presently serves more than 89,000 members and has assets in excess of \$1.5 billion.

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A team of 30 NWFCU employees participated in an August, 2007 disaster recovery test at the credit union's remote operations facility in Hagerstown, Maryland.

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Northwest Federal Credit Union is a full-service financial institution serving select government employees and 400+ companies throughout Northern Virginia. Established in 1947 and headquartered in Herndon, Virginia, NWFCU is dedicated to providing financial services and education to its members and the community. The Credit Union currently serves more than 89,000 members and has assets in excess of \$1.5 billion. For more information, visit www.nwfcu.org.