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GPO RANKED FIRST AMONG TOP 50 IN-PLANTS IN THE NATION, FOR 3rd CONSECUTIVE YEAR

For the third year in a row, the Government Printing Office (GPO) has been named the top in-plant printing operation in the Nation, in a survey conducted by *In-Plant Graphics*, a widely respected journal of the in-plant printing industry. The ranking was released in the December 2000 issue of *In-Plant Graphics*.

In-Plant Graphics ranked in-plant operations from Federal, state, and local governments; universities; and the insurance, retail, and manufacturing sectors. The survey considered factors like annual sales, number of employees, budget, and number of printed jobs. According to the editor's note in the December 2000 issue, "we feel the in-plants on our list are models of efficiency. We have written stories on many of them [GPO was profiled by *In-Plant Graphics* in 1996, 1998, and 1999] and found them to be extremely cost conscious and customer focused. They continually look out for the good of their parent organizations. In short, they not only are large, they are extremely well run—and that is precisely the type of in-plant that *In-Plant Graphics* is proud to honor."

Responding to the selection, Public Printer Michael F. DiMario said, "Once again, we're very pleased to be recognized in this manner, and this recognition is a direct reflection on the work performed here every day by the dedicated men and women of the Government Printing Office."

GPO continued to expand its Web-based operations in 2000. During the year, GPO assisted the Supreme Court in the development and release of

its widely-heralded Web site. The site, which resides on GPO's servers, was hit for a total of 1.1 million page views in the hours just before and just after the Court's historic December 12 decision in the Presidential election case. This volume of traffic was accommodated by new bandwidth capacity installed earlier in the year.

Also during the year, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia continued to utilize **GPO Access** (www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess) for the online release of its decision documents in the Microsoft case. **GPO Access** was also used to disseminate other highly publicized documents, such as the *U.S. Budget* and the "Plum Book," which lists positions available for appointment in the incoming Administration. Early in the year, GPO made *Ben's Guide to U.S. Government for Kids* available on **GPO Access**, at <http://bensguide.gpo.gov>, drawing strongly positive reviews from the library, education, and legal communities. Monthly document retrievals from **GPO Access** now average more than 26 million.

There were noteworthy activities in other GPO areas during 2000. GPO's Printing Procurement Program provided crucial support to the decennial census by placing more than \$65 million in competitive printing contracts for census materials with the private sector. In equipment modernization, GPO set plans to acquire a new 28" x 40" perfecting press to replace two 43" x 60" two color presses, and two new 22" x 20" and two 17" x 20" offset envelope perfecting presses to replace five aging envelope presses.

In other areas, GPO is computerizing its invoice examination and certification process, acquiring an off-the-shelf system for property management and accounting, and installing a new automated cardkey security system. During the year, GPO consolidated its paper warehouse storage space, a move that will save more than \$5 million over the next five years. A financial audit of GPO's finances by an independent audit firm resulted in an "unqualified opinion," the highest level of assurance that an audit firm can give on financial statements.

(Self-Mailer)

