



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Mohamad Ali Named Chairman of the Mass Technology Leadership Council**

*Avaya Executive Led Two Corporate Expansions in Bay State;  
Helped Build Framework for MassTLC's 100,000 Jobs Challenge*

**BURLINGTON, Mass.—December 15, 2010—**The Mass Technology Leadership Council (MassTLC), the state's largest technology association, today elected Mohamad Ali, Senior Vice President of Corporate Development and Strategy at Avaya, as chairman of its Board of Trustees. Ali succeeds Steve O'Leary, Managing Director of Aeris Partners, who was elected Chairman in 2008 and who will continue to serve on MassTLC's Executive Committee.

A long time resident of Massachusetts, Ali has already made a significant impact on the state's economic growth as a corporate executive and as an active participant in MassTLC, while also serving on the Tech Hub Collaborative, Governor Patrick's select committee on technology growth.

Since joining Avaya, a global leader in enterprise communications systems, in July of 2009, Ali has helped increase the company's Bay State presence by four-fold and in his previous capacity as IBM's senior executive in Massachusetts, he actively contributed to IBM's dramatic expansion here, including overseeing the opening of its new Littleton campus.

"Mohamad Ali is a major force who has helped catalyze our state's technology industry resurgence," said outgoing chairman Steve O'Leary. "He has capably led major expansions of two formidable worldwide players, Avaya and IBM, while also working behind the scenes to help drive growth across the region's tech sector – from entrepreneurial start-ups to multi-national enterprises."

As chairman of MassTLC's Policy Committee, Ali worked alongside O'Leary and the Council's Executive Committee to develop the Council's "2020 Challenge," which seeks to grow the state's technology base by 100,000 jobs in the coming decade.

"Mohamad has helped the Council create an actionable framework for the MassTLC 2020 Challenge," said Tom Hopcroft, Council President and CEO. "He is well positioned not only to help the Council realize its jobs growth initiative but also to help the state assert itself as a world leader in the *new information technologies*, from mobile to robotics to data analytics."

"I am excited to begin my work as Chairman and to build upon Steve's success in repositioning the Council over the past two years, including his leadership of the MassTLC 2020 Challenge and merger with the Massachusetts Network Communications Council," said Ali.

MassTLC is the state's largest technology association and is uniquely qualified to help catalyze Massachusetts' next phase of innovation and growth through its unique programs, research and policy initiatives.

Ali brings deep business and technology experience to his role. He currently leads Avaya's research labs and its emerging products business unit, formerly managed IBM's digital signal processing team, and contributed to the development of Postscript at Adobe.

In addition to his Avaya and industry organization roles, Ali also sits on the board of Ember, a Boston-based cleantech company, and on the Leadership Council of Oxfam America.

**About The Mass Technology Leadership Council, Inc.**

The Mass Technology Leadership Council, Inc. is the only business association that addresses the critical leadership issues of innovative technology and technology-enabled companies. Drawing on the rich legacies of Massachusetts Network Communications Council, the Massachusetts Software Council, and the New England Business and Technology Association, Inc., the organization is dedicated to fostering entrepreneurship and promoting the success of companies that develop and deploy technology across industry sectors. The Mass Technology Leadership Council conducts educational programs, hosts industry events, facilitates networking, sponsors research, advocates in favor of technology policies that promote innovation, entrepreneurship and competition, and recognizes industry-leading companies and people. For more information, visit <http://www.masstlc.org> or <http://blog.masstlc.org>.