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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE *SKILLSOURCE* GROUP, INC. ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH MICROSOFT FOR THE ELEVATE AMERICA VETERANS INITIATIVE

November 14, 2011 – The *SkillSource* Group, Inc. and the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board announced a new partnership with the Microsoft Corporation for its Elevate America Veterans Initiative in Northern Virginia. The Microsoft Elevate America Veterans Initiative supports veterans and their spouses get the technology skills and certifications needed to be successful in today’s civilian workforce.

The Chairman of the *SkillSource* Group, Inc., Janet Samuelson, noted that “Our new partnership with the Microsoft Corporation is a key opportunity for the Northern Virginia *SkillSource* Centers to reach more veterans and to support their transition to strong employment opportunities with key technology skills. With Microsoft’s resource support, we intend to reach veterans throughout Northern Virginia to support and enhance their information technology skills and to assist their placement into jobs. We are honored to be part of the Microsoft effort to align our veterans with 21st century job opportunities.” Samuelson is the President and CEO of ServiceSource, Inc.

Dr. David C. Miles, the Chairman of the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board said “This unique technology training partnership with the Microsoft Corporation will allow the Workforce Board and our Northern Virginia *SkillSource* Centers to integrate and strengthen program outreach to veterans with our State colleagues at the Virginia Community College System and the Virginia Employment Commission. Our joint efforts, combined with the individual effort of each veteran undertaking the Microsoft training program, will certainly prepare many of our local veterans for good jobs throughout our region.” Miles is the Chairman of The Miles Lehane Companies, Inc. – OI Partners.

The *SkillSource* Group, Inc. and the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board are one of five (5) local workforce areas in the nation selected for this Microsoft initiative. The other workforce areas include Seattle – King County (Washington), San Diego (California), Houston-Galveston (Texas) and Jacksonville (Florida). Each local workforce area will receive 1,000 Microsoft training vouchers per year for two years. Microsoft is also providing in-person support to ensure veterans and their spouses are successful in their training and certifications.

The *SkillSource* Group, Inc. and the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board serve over 1.9 million residents within the counties of Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William and the cities of Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park. For more information, please call (703) 752-1606 or visit www.myskillsource.org.

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***A non-profit entity of the Northern Virginia Workforce Investment Board
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