



Alibaba.com celebrates 1,000,000th member

### **Milestone Marks Rapid Growth of Alibaba Marketplace**

**Hong Kong, China - December 27, 2001** - On Dec. 27, 2001, at 10:47 a.m., Mr. Yang, from Jiangsu Province, China, completed his membership registration process at Alibaba.com, thereby becoming the 1,000,000th Alibaba member. With this event, Alibaba.com became the only B2B website with 1,000,000 registered business members worldwide.

Alibaba.com is helping businesses to open the gateway toward success and business opportunities in the corporate arena. The total number of registered members increased from less than 100,000 in 1999 to 500,000 in 2000, and soared to 1,000,000 at the end of 2001.

Thanks to Alibaba.com and its most important tool, the Internet, 1,000,000 corporate representatives from 202 countries and territories can easily meet and do business online. Though most members are from places that play a very important role in the world's import & export arena, such as the USA, Europe, Japan, and Korea, Alibaba also attracts business people from places as diverse as Bouvet Island, Greenland, Montserrat, Niue, Pitcairn, St. Pierre-et-Miquelon, Mayotte, and Norfolk Island.

Everyday, Alibaba stories inspire individuals who firmly believe that e-commerce is a necessary choice for business people around the world. The positive feedback received from members greatly encourages Alibaba to continue its quest for premium products and services. A journalist from Asahi once interviewed an Alibaba China Supplier and was deeply touched by his remark: "Alibaba makes me expect something everyday!"

Alibaba.com was officially established in Hangzhou, China in March 1999, by a group of young Chinese Internet pioneers led by Mr. Jack Ma. Its business model soon drew great attention in the international IT industry and attracted various institutional investors, including Goldman Sachs and Softbank. Additionally, governments and non-governmental organizations in the USA, Japan, Singapore, India, Taiwan, and Europe recommend Alibaba as the B2B website of their choice.

Alibaba.com was selected by Forbes \*\*\*\* as "Best of the Web: B2B" twice (2000 and 2001) and was voted as the most popular B2B website by readers of the Far Eastern Economic Review in November, 2000. Harvard University has twice

chosen Alibaba for MBA case studies.

Alibaba.com CEO Jack Ma was nominated one of the Global Leaders for Tomorrow by the World Economic Forum in 2001, also being honored as a recipient of the Asian Business Association Business Leadership Award in the same year.

For more information please visit [www.alibaba.com](http://www.alibaba.com) or send an email to [alibaba@alibaba-inc.com](mailto:alibaba@alibaba-inc.com).