



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lisa Frantzis
Navigant Consulting, Inc.
+1-781-270-8314

Richard Hansen
Soluz, Inc.
+1-978-251-8387

**NAVIGANT CONSULTING AND SOLUZ RELEASE *INNOVATION IN RURAL ENERGY DELIVERY*
Study Targets Enterprise-Based Strategies for Accelerating Energy Access in Rural Areas**

Burlington, MA, July 20, 2006 – Navigant Consulting, Inc. (NYSE: NCI), and Soluz, Inc. announced today the release of a multi-client study on accelerating rural energy service through the private sector using distributed energy.

The study, *Innovation in Rural Energy Delivery*, focuses on opportunities to accelerate energy access in rural areas of developing countries. The study delves into the use of entrepreneurial small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in providing service through distributed clean energy (DCE) technologies, primarily small renewable energy systems. The NCI/Soluz study team included renewable energy experts and developers of leading rural energy delivery operations and innovative business models as part of their research group.

“With the right technologies and conditions, innovative enterprises have proven very capable of addressing the energy needs of rural households and businesses,” said John Rogers, Vice President of Soluz, Inc. and the study’s lead author. “*Innovation in Rural Energy Delivery* makes clear the key elements for accelerating rural energy access through SMEs: enabling environments, consumer finance, enterprise finance, and innovation funding.”

“This kind of serious analysis of leading experiences from the past decade—what has worked and what hasn’t—is crucial for devising energy-access strategies for rural areas that have long been without modern energy services,” added Lisa Frantzis, NCI’s Director for Renewable and Distributed Energy and a contributing author to the study.

The study draws on the experiences of prominent and innovative rural energy enterprises and programs that have engaged SMEs to increase rural energy access. It includes in-depth case studies of several of those efforts, including SELCO India, Soluz Dominicana, and Soluz Honduras. The study also draws on experiences of other members of the REDCO Alliance, a network of rural energy SMEs assembled as part of the project’s investigation of the state of rural energy delivery.

Profiled ventures also include Solar Development Group and other rural energy projects and investment efforts supported by the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation.

“Through this study, we’re looking to provide key decision-makers with the understanding they need to develop and carry out appropriate interventions and support the necessary innovation for reaching many more people with private-sector solutions,” said Richard Hansen, founder and President of Soluz, Inc. and a study co-author.

The Navigant Consulting/Soluz study team also included Harish Hande, founder and Managing Director of SELCO India; Shannon Graham, NCI; Philip Covell, formerly of Global Transition Consulting and Solar Development Group; Steven Kaufman, Green Markets International; and Carlos Rufin, Babson College. The study was supported by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, the Solar Circle, Flow Fund, Co-op America, the Oak Foundation, Winrock International, the United Nations Foundation, and others.

For more information about *Innovation in Rural Energy Delivery*, visit www.SoluzUSA.com/innovation.html or www.NavigantConsulting.com/energy.

About Soluz, Inc.

Soluz, Inc. (www.SoluzUSA.com) is a business development, technology development, and advisory services company supporting the use of distributed clean energy technologies for rural areas. The company's core expertise is in advancing private-sector approaches to expanding rural energy access, particularly through rural energy delivery companies (REDCOs).

About Navigant Consulting

Navigant Consulting, Inc. (www.NavigantConsulting.com) is an independent international consulting firm combining deep industry expertise and integrated solutions to assist companies and their legal counsel in addressing the challenges of uncertainty and risk, and leveraging opportunities for overall business improvement. Professional services include dispute, investigative, operational and business advisory, risk management and regulatory advisory, and transaction advisory solutions. "Navigant" is a service mark of Navigant International, Inc. Navigant Consulting, Inc. (NCI) is not affiliated, associated, or in any way connected with Navigant International, Inc. and NCI's use of "Navigant" is made under license from Navigant International, Inc.

###