

Distinguished Minority Women in Business

Economic Empowerment & National
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Special Edition

MEA

Minority Enterprise Advocate

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Ashley W. Chen earned both her Bachelors and Masters of Science degrees in five years and with honors. After graduation, she accepted a position with a consulting company involving assignments on Capitol Hill. Despite an exhausting



work schedule, she achieved the highest level of professional certifications from both Novell and Microsoft.

Ms. Chen founded ActioNet in 1998 with a "dream to build something great." Through hard work and persistence, she turned her vision into action and her dreams into reality, transforming the company from an individually-operated company in 1998 to a dynamic information technology solution provider specializing in high-quality services and support with over 70 staff members and over \$5 million in revenue today.

ActioNet is an SEI CMM Level 3 Certified IT Services Firm that specializes in Enterprise Software Development involving a Full Lifecycle Methodology, Information Systems Security, Systems Integration, and Training. ActioNet also has custom developed products such as iMakeSurveys, an online service that simplifies the process of collecting survey information and provides timely feedback for organizations engaged in customer service and outreach activities. ActioNet's Change Tracker Product was introduced to support IT Change Management functions. ActioNet provides marketing, event planning and web hosting support to many community organizations and is also involved with the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce and the Northern Virginia Technology Council.

In 2004, Ms. Chen was honored as the SBA Minority Small Business Person of the Year for the Washington District Office and as the Asian Entrepreneur of the Year from *Asian Enterprise Magazine*. 2004 was a banner year for ActioNet with many awards including the *INC* 500 Fastest-Growing Private Companies, *The Deloitte Technology Fast 50 - Virginia* and *Fast 500 - North America* awards for the second year in a row, as well as *The Washington Technology Fast 50*. ActioNet was also a recipient of the DOT Outstanding Women-Owned Business Enterprise Award and the DOE CIO IT Quality Award for Technical Excellence. ActioNet received the "Exceeds Customer Expectations" Past Performance Rating from D&B, and D&B's Highest "3A1" Financial Rating with zero debt.