



News Release

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IOWA BUSINESS COUNCIL ANNOUNCES 2nd ANNUAL IOWA PARTNERS IN EFFICIENCY AWARD

DES MOINES, IOWA – (July 1, 2010) The Iowa Business Council (IBC) calls for nominations for the second annual *Iowa Partners in Efficiency (IPE) Award*. This honor recognizes the employees or work units in any political subdivision of local, county, or state government that, through the use of Lean tools and techniques, significantly and measurably increase productivity and promote innovation resulting in the improvement of delivery of public services to the benefit of the citizens of Iowa and the private sector.

Award nominations will be accepted from July 1 – September 30, 2010. Entries will be judged by representatives of the Lean Government Collaborative, an organization of public- and private-sector efficiency experts dedicated to instilling a culture of continuous process improvement within all levels of government. The top three finalists will be selected November 5, 2010, to be followed by an on-site visit as part of the evaluation process. The winner will be announced during IBC's 25th Annual Partnership Meeting in Des Moines on January 31, 2011. An application and additional details can be obtained at <http://lean.iowa.gov/> or www.iowabusinesscouncil.org.

"The Iowa Business Council was pleased and impressed with the quality of entries received for the 2009 IPE Award, and encourages all levels of government to consider submitting their efforts to improve efficiency and productivity for the 2010 award," said IBC Board Chair Tom Aller, President of Interstate Power & Light, an Alliant Energy Company. "The *Partners in Efficiency Award* encourages continued use of Lean in the public sector as an initiative that consistently succeeds in producing effective results."

The purpose for creating this award is:

- to publicly acknowledge and highlight outstanding efforts at efficiency, productivity, cost avoidance, and waste elimination in government;
- to improve regulatory processes and performance targets;
- to drive economic competitiveness;
- to foster better work environments; and,
- to develop leaders and innovators with a bias for action.

The 2009 IPE Award went to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR), recognized for information management improvements in the development of a single database holding snowmobile/ATV registration and titling information. The new system

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allows instant access to the information, bringing consistency and standardization to the processing of registration and title applications. DNR's efforts reduced lead time by 99%, the number of steps in the overall registration and titling process by 90%, handoffs by 77%, delays by 96%, and re-work by 100%. The improved process is being replicated for boat registration and titling.

The **Iowa Business Council** (IBC) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, self-funded organization whose 24 members are the top executives of 20 of the largest businesses in the state, the three Regent university presidents, and Iowa's largest banking association. Founded in 1985, the Council's purpose is to focus the personal commitment of its members in active leadership roles on major initiatives that offer opportunity to enhance Iowa's economic vitality and improve the lives of Iowans. Council members identify economic issues, evaluate options, and assist in implementing solutions through collaborative public/private partnerships. **Collectively**, these companies and institutions employ nearly a quarter million Iowans and have committed billions of dollars in capital investment to the state. **On an annual basis**, several hundred million dollars in financial contributions and thousands of volunteer hours are directed to numerous charitable causes around Iowa. IBC members also lead in technology innovation with billions of dollars spent and grants procured for research and development. The Business Council focuses its efforts primarily in areas related to advanced technology, continuous process improvement, economic and workforce development, education excellence, health care and wellness, and operations continuity and security. Its representation reaches across the state – from borders north and south to rivers east and west. For more information, please visit the IBC Web site at www.iowabusinesscouncil.org.

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