



News Release

Contact:

Denise Essman
d.essman@essmanassociates.com
Essman/Associates
Phone: (515) 282-7145

Damos of The Weitz Company Joins the Iowa Business Council

Des Moines, IOWA (May 14, 2009) – Craig P. Damos, chairman and CEO of The Weitz Company, has accepted an invitation to join the Iowa Business Council (IBC). Membership in the Council is by invitation only and includes 24 members, consisting of the top executives of 20 of Iowa's largest employers, the three Regent universities, and Iowa's largest banking association.

Mel Haight, Iowa Business Council chair and president and CEO of Pella Corporation said, "We are excited to have such an outstanding and respected individual join IBC. The unique leadership skills and keen business sense Craig possesses have helped to distinguish Weitz in its unparalleled commitment to a quality building experience for its customers. His visionary thinking will most certainly benefit the work of the Council on behalf of all Iowans."

Prior to joining The Weitz Company, Craig Damos was senior vice president of economic units for RSM McGladrey, Inc. He joined Weitz in 2000 as strategic financial officer, working with the management team to develop infrastructure that allowed the company to become a \$1.5 billion contractor. In 2004, Damos was appointed vertical growth officer with the goal of taking the core competencies of the company's general construction business and creating opportunities to diversify. He graduated from the University of Iowa with distinction in 1977, earning a Bachelor of Business Administration degree.

Founded in Fort Des Moines, Iowa, by German immigrant Charles H. Weitz in 1855, the business started out as a small carpentry shop. Providing quality work on small jobs eventually led to larger projects, involving both private businesses and public buildings. This family business continued to grow and flourish under the guidance of four successive Weitz generations. During this time, the company pioneered the development of precast concrete exterior wall construction and became one of the largest producers of architectural precast concrete. It also focused on modern food-grain storage in underdeveloped countries worldwide. In 1995, an independent, employee-owned company emerged from Weitz family leadership that continues to realize unequalled growth opportunities and elevate its reputation within the construction industry. Today, Weitz offers a broad array of services, primarily in the areas government, military, industry, senior living, commercial, resort, and golf course construction development.

ABOUT THE IOWA BUSINESS COUNCIL

The Iowa Business Council is a non-profit, non-partisan, self-funded organization. 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



Iowa **Business** Council

100 East Grand Avenue, Suite 160, Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Phone: 515-246-1700

Fax: 515-246-1701

E-mail: ibc@iowabusinesscouncil.org

improve the lives of Iowans. Council members identify key economic issues, evaluate options, and assist in implementing solutions through collaborative public/private partnerships.

Collectively, IBC companies and institutions employ more than 210,000 Iowans and, in just the last ten years, have invested over \$15 billion of capital in the state. Annually, the Business Council represents more than \$250 million in financial contributions and volunteer hours given to numerous charitable causes around Iowa. Council member companies and institutions are leaders in technology innovation with over \$3.0 billion in spending and procured grants for research and development. For more information, please visit the IBC Web site at www.iowabusinesscouncil.org.

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