



# News Release

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## Schickler of Pioneer Hi-Bred Joins the Iowa Business Council

**Des Moines, IOWA (March 29, 2010)** – Paul E. Schickler, president of Pioneer Hi-Bred International in Johnston, has accepted an invitation to join the Iowa Business Council (IBC). Council membership consists of the top executives of 20 of Iowa's largest employers, the three Regent universities, and Iowa's largest banking association.

Tom Aller, Iowa Business Council chair and president of Interstate Power & Light, an Alliant Energy company in Cedar Rapids, said, "IBC is honored to have such an outstanding and respected individual join its ranks. Paul's distinguished career demonstrates a commitment to positioning Iowa as a leader in the global marketplace. He understands the importance of collaboration and possesses the kind of visionary thinking that will further the work of the Council on behalf of all Iowans."

Paul E. Schickler joined Pioneer in 1974 as an accountant and held various administrative positions until 1984, when he was named controller. In 1995, Schickler became vice president of Human Resources, Learning and Development, Communications and Real Estate Management. Four years later he was named vice president, director, Latin America Operations. His role with the company later expanded to include Mexico and Africa. Responsibility for the remaining international business was added in 2003 when he became vice president, International Operations. Schickler was then named president of Pioneer in 2007. Along with his membership on the Iowa Business Council, he serves on the Grand View College Board of Directors, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International (JDRF) Board of Directors, and the National Future Farmers of America Sponsors' Board. Schickler received Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees in business administration from Drake University.

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., a DuPont business, was founded in 1926 by Henry A. Wallace to develop and market hybrid seed corn. Today the company is the leading developer and supplier of advanced plant genetics to farmers around the globe, seeking to increase customer productivity, profitability, and develop sustainable agricultural systems for people everywhere. Innovative and customer-focused, Pioneer is a leader in the agriculture industry and upholds the highest standards. Headquartered in Johnston, Iowa, Pioneer provides services to customers in nearly 70 countries and employs 6,500 people worldwide. More information about Pioneer Hi-Bred International is available online at [www.pioneer.com](http://www.pioneer.com).

### **ABOUT THE IOWA BUSINESS COUNCIL**

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



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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](http://www.iowabusinesscouncil.org).

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