



Greater Dubuque Development Earns Awards

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DUBUQUE, IA — Greater Dubuque Development garnered two first place and one second place awards at the 2010 Mid-America Competitiveness Conference, presented by the Mid-America Economic Development Council at the Intercontinental Hotel in Chicago December 5-7, 2010.

In the category of **Business Retention and Expansion**, Greater Dubuque scored the top vote of the judges for the Dubuque Sustainability Innovation Consortium, a new, private-sector driven initiative comprised of Dubuque businesses from manufacturing, technology, service, wholesale, and other industry sectors. Consortium companies represent 1,250 employees and are currently engaged in both the sales and production of green related services/products. Although a work in progress, the goal of the consortium is to connect Dubuque businesses with new market opportunities and possible sales. Greater Dubuque Development, along with the City of Dubuque, organizes and coordinates activities on behalf of the consortium.

The panel of judges noted that the consortium “is a smart approach which builds upon the day-to-day interaction with a specific cluster of employers” and that it is “a very timely initiative and one that has already produced and realized tangible results.”

Greater Dubuque Development’s CEO Network Series received first place honors in the **Workforce Development** category. Greater Dubuque Development has long been known for its innovations in workforce development and believes the key to the retention of students within the Dubuque community post-graduation is engaging those students pre-graduation. It’s important that they feel welcome, that they feel connected, that they feel at home. The CEO Network Series works to achieve those goals.

Judges in the Workforce Development category noted that the CEO Network Series was a “great way to engage existing employers with students and helps with retention and relationship building.”

Greater Dubuque Development was also recognized for its communication and information strategy by way of its monthly newsletter, **Business Matters**. In making the award, judges noted that **Business Matters** was consistent in its monthly updates on progress toward set goals and that it illustrated good stewardship of the investment made to Greater Dubuque Development by its investors.

The Mid-America Economic Development Council is dedicated to enhancing economic developers’ knowledge, capabilities and opportunities through multi-state networking, education and site selector interaction.

For many years, MAEDC has sponsored the annual Economic Development Awards competition to recognize and stimulate the creative use of quality marketing by economic development organizations throughout the ten-state Mid-America region in promoting their respective communities. MAEDC’s awards partner is Site Selection magazine, and all first place winners will be highlighted in the January issue of Site Selection magazine.

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