



ESOP report

The Voice of The ESOP Association
Serving the Entire ESOP Community

inside
April 2009

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The ESOP Association Announces 2009 Silver ESOP Award Winners

The ESOP Association has presented 12 corporate members of the Association with a Silver ESOP Award to recognize their work in sustaining their ESOP for 25 years or more. This year, the Silver ESOP Awards are being presented to companies that will be celebrating 25 years as an ESOP company in 2009.

This is the second year the Silver ESOP Awards have been presented by the Association. In 2008, 130 corporate members were presented with the first annual Silver ESOP Awards. To qualify as a Silver ESOP Company, winning companies had to have an ESOP in place for 25 years or more, from 1983 on.

"It is my pleasure to present these companies with the 2009 Silver ESOP Award for excellence in sustaining their ESOP for 25 years. Congratulations to all," said J. Michael Keeling, president of The ESOP Association. "In the fall of 2008, 92.4% of ESOP Association members responding to an Economic Performance Survey reported that creating employee ownership through an ESOP was 'a good business decision that has helped the company.' In today's economic conditions, this is an amazing figure but not an unbelievable one. As these Silver ESOP Award winners have clearly shown, sharing wealth with employee owners creates greater economic prosperity and strengthens our free enterprise system. This is the direction we need to move to turn our economy around."

The list of 2009 Silver ESOP Award Winners:

Alpine Bank, Grand Junction, CO
Bridge Community Bank, Mechanicsville, IA
Capital Fire Protection Co., Columbus, OH
EMA Group, Inc., St. Paul, MN
James M. Pleasants Co., Inc., Greensboro, NC
Kerotest Manufacturing Corp., Pittsburgh, PA
Medler Electric Company, Alma, MI
Midway Ford Truck Center, Inc., Kansas City, IA
SRC Holdings Corp., Springfield, MO
Stylmark, Inc., Minneapolis, MN
Western Building Products, Inc., Milwaukee, WI
YSI, Incorporated, Yellow Springs, OH

(Please see, SILVER, page 14)

FOUNDATION NEWS

2nd Annual Employee Ownership Foundation/University of Pennsylvania Symposium to be Held on May 1 & 2, 2009

The second Annual Roundtable Conversation among Scholars and ESOP Leaders will be held on May 1 & 2, 2009 at the University of Pennsylvania. The Symposium is sponsored by the Employee Ownership Foundation and the Organizational Dynamics Graduate Studies Program in the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania.

The focus of the program will be *ESOP Social and Economic Performance: the Recent Past and the Immediate Future: A Round Table Conversation among Scholars and ESOP Leaders.*

(Please see, SYMPOSIUM, page 8)