

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Illinois Performance Excellence announces seven recipients for its 2011 Awards for Excellence

Naperville, IL (December 1<sup>st</sup> 2011) - Today Illinois Performance Excellence announced the 2011 recipients of the ILPEX Awards for Excellence. This annual award recognizes organizations within the State of Illinois identified as leaders contributing to the economic development and ethical competitiveness in the state. The award has three levels with recipients meeting various stages of performance modeled after the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

For 2011, Illinois Performance Excellence has two recipients of the ILPEX Gold Award for “Achievement of Excellence,” the highest recognition possible, with only eight other recipients in the history of the organization since 1994.

“Congratulations to all of the recipients of the ILPEX Awards for Excellence and for committing to an on-going journey to excellence,” says Darcy Davidsmeyer, President and CEO of Illinois Performance Excellence. “This year’s recipients are outstanding examples of organizations that understand the impact and benefit that comes from a shared vision and alignment of processes, through the use of the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence.”

The two recipients of the ILPEX Gold Award for “Achievement of Excellence” are recognized for establishing themselves as a role model organization operating at an exceptional level in the enduring quest for excellence. The recipients of this meritorious honor are:

***St. Mary’s Good Samaritan, Inc. – Centralia/Mt. Vernon***  
***Sarah Bush Lincoln Health System – Mattoon***

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Three more organizations were awarded the 2011 ILPEX Silver Award for “Progress toward Excellence” demonstrating sound and notable continuous improvement processes. These organizations are:

***Anderson Packaging, Inc. - Rockford***  
***Blessing Hospital – Quincy***  
***Sherman Hospital – Elgin***

Additionally, two organizations received the 2011 ILPEX Bronze Award for “Commitment to Excellence” for their earnest efforts to adopt and apply continuous improvement principles. These organizations include:

***American College of Healthcare Executives – Chicago  
Concentric Itasca, Inc. – Itasca***

All of this year's recipients are exceptional examples of organizations understanding the impact and benefit that comes from a dedicated journey to performance excellence. They positively impact the economic growth in the State of Illinois using the aligned Baldrige framework as their business model. We are proud to recognize our seven recipients for their achievement and commitment to continuous improvement.

On Friday, January 20, 2012, Illinois Performance Excellence will publicly recognize the 2011 Illinois Baldrige Quality Award recipients at the annual Saluting Excellence Recognition Ceremony to be held at the Tellabs' offices in Naperville. The keynote speaker for this event will be [David S. Fox, President, Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital](#) which was awarded the 2010 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and the 2010 Lincoln Gold Award recipient. He will share insights and experiences on his personal journey to excellence and Good Samaritan's accomplishments. Information and additional details on this event are available at [www.ilpex.org](http://www.ilpex.org) or by calling 630-637-1595 extension 3.

About Illinois Performance Excellence

Illinois Performance Excellence (ILPEX) empowers organizations to understand and use the framework of the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence, moving to a systematic "view" which translates into alignment and sustainability. As a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization, ILPEX's vision is to create a culture of excellence that is pervasive throughout Illinois. For more information on how your organization can benefit from services provided by Illinois Performance Excellence visit [www.ilpex.org](http://www.ilpex.org).

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