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Illinois Performance Excellence announces four recipients for its 2013 Awards for Excellence

Naperville, IL (December 10th 2013) - Illinois Performance Excellence today announced that four organizations were selected by the ILPEX Panel of Judges as the 2013 recipients of the Illinois Performance Excellence (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. ILPEX is Illinois' only state-wide quality program patterned on the national Baldrige Performance Excellence Program, which was established by Congress and President Ronald Reagan in 1987. The ILPEX Awards for Excellence has three levels of recognition with recipients meeting various stages of performance.

"Congratulations to the 2013 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. "Organizations that pursue the Baldrige management framework can demonstrate through the ILPEX awards process that they have adopted proven performance practices, principles and strategies that nurture excellence in all aspects of an organization – from client relations to workforce development to results. 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 to get efficiencies, focus and sustainability."

One organization was awarded the highest honor, the 2013 ILPEX Gold Award for "Achievement of Excellence," recognized for establishing itself as a role model organization operating at an exceptional level in the enduring quest for excellence. The organization is:

United Cerebral Palsy Land of Lincoln – Springfield

Three organizations received the 2012 ILPEX Bronze Award for "Commitment to Excellence" for their earnest efforts to adopt and apply continuous improvement principles. These organizations include:

Concentric Itasca Inc. – Itasca
OSF St. Mary Medical Center - Galesburg
St. Elizabeth's Hospital - Belleville

The recipient organizations will be honored and formally bestowed the awards at the 19th annual award recognition ceremony, “Saluting Excellence,” to be held on Thursday, March 27, 2014, at Abbington Banquets in Glen Ellyn. Illinois Performance Excellence will also be celebrating its 20th anniversary.

The 2013 Board of Examiners -- made up of nearly 100 experts in business, education, health care and government – organized in teams, spent more than 2,000 hours assessing each applicant in seven categories of: leadership; strategic planning; customer focus; measurement, analysis and knowledge management; workforce focus; operations focus; and results. The ILPEX Panel of Judges is responsible for validating the integrity of the ILPEX award process and determining recognition levels for each applicant. The Panel is composed of experts selected from all industry sectors and represents various geographic areas of the State of Illinois.

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) nonprofit organization, ILPEX’s vision is to create a culture of excellence that is pervasive throughout Illinois. Four Illinois organizations have been honored with the prestigious Baldrige National Quality Award, they are: Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital – 2010; Community Consolidated School District 15 – 2003; Motorola Commercial, Government & Industrial Solutions Sector – 2002; Motorola Inc. – 1988.

For more information on how your organization can benefit from services provided by Illinois Performance Excellence, visit www.ilpex.org, or call 630-637-1595 extension 3.

For more information on the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program, visit www.nist.gov/baldrige/.

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