



Wisconsin **Employee Suggestion Program**

State of Wisconsin:
Jim Doyle, Governor
Office of State Employment Relations:
Karen E. Timberlake, Director

Employee Suggestion Board:
James Behrend, Chair
Sandy Drew, Member
David Vriezen, Member

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- November 15, 2005

Four state employees are being honored by the State Employee Suggestion Board for their efforts in improving efficiencies and reducing costs in state government in fiscal year 2005, Karen E. Timberlake, Director of the Office of State Employment Relations announced today. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation also will receive special recognition for its active participation in the Wisconsin Employee Suggestion Program.

A ceremony honoring the recipients will be held at 11 a.m. today in the Governor's Conference Room in the State Capitol. Karen Timberlake and members of the State Employee Suggestion Board will be present to give remarks and congratulate the winners.

The award winners are:

- ***Individual Suggester of the Year 2005:***

ASIT PATEL (Department of Transportation, Division of Transportation System Development) is being recognized for developing automated procedures and macros to replace time-consuming bid review procedures that were done manually. Net savings: \$23,303 per year.

- ***Group Suggestion of the Year 2005:***

LYNN NACHREINER and STEVE ANDERSON (both Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles) are being recognized for reducing costs by working with the vendor for the Automated Road Test Systems (ARTS) and reprogramming the way repeat contacts are batched, thus reducing the number of times the system is accessed. Net savings: \$85,000 average per year.

- ***Agency Coordinator of the Year 2005:***

JAMES BECKER (Department of Transportation, Division of Transportation System Development) is being recognized for doing an outstanding job as division coordinator and for being the master of ceremonies for DOT's annual agency-level awards ceremony.

MORE

- ***Agency of the Year 2005:***

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (Secretary Frank Busalacchi)

The Department of Transportation is being honored as Agency of the Year for 2005, for its active participation in the Employee Suggestion Program and for the commitment the agency's managers and employees continue to show to the program.

The Wisconsin Employee Suggestion Program encourages state employees to become agents for change, initiating ideas on ways to improve services, enhance efficiency, and save money for the state. This program is designed not only to stimulate suggestions, but also to recognize employees for their contributions.

For further information, contact the statewide program coordinator, Robert Toomey, at the Office of State Employment Relations, by telephone (608) 266-0664, e-mail Robert.Toomey@oser.state.wi.us, or fax (608) 267-1020.

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