

CPEX Announces 2007 Award Recipients

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Denver, Colo. – Rich Wagner, Chair of the board of Colorado Performance Excellence (CPEX) - a member of the Alliance for Performance Excellence based on the Baldrige National Program for Performance Excellence- has announced CPEX award recipients for 2007. Since 2002, CPEX has recognized Colorado organizations for their achievements toward systematic performance improvement. This year's recipients are as follows:

Foothills Award—*for excellence in their approaches to achieving performance excellence*

- o Jefferson County Workforce Center, Golden
- o Employment Services of Weld County, Greeley
- o St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center, Grand Junction
- o Missile Defense Integration and Operations Center, Schriever AFB
- o Colorado Department of Labor and Employment Unemployment Insurance Program, Denver

High Plains Recognition—*for completing an organizational profile for pursuing excellence*

- o City and County of Denver, Treasury Division - Tax Compliance Section
- o Denver's Office of Economic Development - Division of Workforce Development
- o Southwest Colorado Workforce Center, Durango
- o Broomfield Workforce Center, Broomfield

Colorado organizations are considered for awards at four levels—High Plains, Foothills, Timberline, and Peak—representing varying stages of the pursuit of performance excellence. High Plains recipients are just beginning the process, while Foothills-level recipients are recognized for developing formalized approaches toward achieving performance excellence.

CPEX determines recipients based on their adherence to criteria developed by the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Program, launched by Congress in 1987 to lead businesses and non-profit organizations toward improving their performance. Organizations are evaluated against seven categories, based on the nationally administered Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence.

“In all, 13 organizations applied for an award this year, and each one of them will receive valuable feedback based on our thorough examination process,” commented CPEX Executive Director Tom Mauro. “Applicants can use this feedback to continue making organizational improvements, and they’re welcome to reapply next year.”

This year’s CPEX award recipients will be recognized at the annual CPEX Quest for Excellence Conference on November 15th and 16th at the Marriott Lone Tree in Park Meadows. In addition to the CPEX awards ceremony, the two-day conference will also include keynote speakers and breakout sessions on quality- and performance-related topics. Attendees will have access to tools, techniques, and strategies for improving their organizations, as well as networking opportunities with other quality and performance improvement professionals.

For more information, or to register for the Quest VI conference, please visit www.coloradoexcellence.org.

ABOUT CPEX

The mission of Colorado Performance Excellence is to create a culture of excellence that is pervasive throughout Colorado. CPEX fulfills this promise through training and education, assessment and feedback, recognition and awards, networking, and the sharing of best practices. For more information, please see the CPEX Web site at www.coloradoexcellence.org.

ABOUT BALDRIGE

The criteria used to determine award recipients at the various levels are based on the Baldrige criteria, which any organization can use to improve overall performance. Seven categories make up the award criteria: Leadership; Strategic Planning; Customer and Market Focus; Measurement, Analysis, and Knowledge Management; Human Resource Focus; Process Management; and Organizational Results. Organizations wishing to evaluate themselves against the Baldrige criteria can find a useful self-assessment tool at <http://www.quality.nist.gov/Progress.htm>.

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