



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Excellon Technologies, Inc. Honored in the Indiana Companies to Watch Awards Program for 2008

Fort Wayne, Indiana, 08-19-08

Fifty companies from Indiana will be honored as outstanding second-stage companies during the first **Indiana Companies to Watch** awards program, which will be held Aug. 27 in Indianapolis.

Companies to Watch is an awards program that celebrates Indiana privately held second-stage companies, typically those businesses which are past the startup phase, are considered to be established, and face issues of growth, not survival.

Companies honored range from traditional businesses involved in manufacturing, financial services and warehousing to high-tech companies working in the life sciences, information technology, telecommunications, or environmental or technical consulting industries.

Among the 50 honored companies is Fort Wayne-based **Excellon Technologies, Inc.**

Excellon Technologies, Inc. was founded by John Taller in 2001. Gil Perry joined the company in 2002 as an equal partner. They represent over 60 years of combined experience in engineering and manufacturing management. They are a HUBZone small business concern in Fort Wayne, Indiana specializing in providing custom electronic Design and Manufacturing services for the Military/Aerospace and Commercial/Industrial fields.

The company has seen tremendous growth each year; growing from their initial sales of \$250,000 the first year, to a multi-million dollar company today. As a result of their outstanding growth in 2007, they have expanded their facility, nearly doubled their workforce and have added additional equipment.

John and Gil will be the first to acknowledge that their employees' dedication and attention to detail are the reasons for the companies' success. Quality employees, years of experience, state-of-art equipment and custom design engineering allow Excellon Technologies to provide customers with the best products and service in the industry.

Companies to Watch firms must employ between six and 150 full-time equivalent employees, have between \$750,000 and \$100 million in annual revenue or working capital in place, and demonstrate the intent and capacity to grow based on employee or sales growth, exceptional entrepreneurial leadership, sustainable competitive advantage or other notable strengths.

A total of 420 Indiana companies, representing 66 Indiana counties, were nominated for the Companies to Watch program. The number of firms was narrowed down to 222 businesses, from 44 counties. From that list, 133 finalists were selected in late May.

Indiana has nearly 3,800 mid-sized companies with between \$5 million and \$100 million in annual sales, according to a recent Indiana Chamber of Commerce Foundation study. Those companies employed more than 386,000 workers and produced more than \$55 billion in annual sales.

Indiana Companies to Watch is a collaboration among the Indiana Economic Development Corp., through its Small Business Development Centers, Purdue University and the Edward Lowe Foundation.

This program would not be possible without the generous support of the following: New Paradigm Sponsor, KeyBank. Visionaries: Barnes & Thornburg LLP; Katz, Sapper & Miller, Ivy Tech Community College; Inside Indiana Business. Innovators: Duke Energy; Premier Capital Corporation; Stuart & Branigin LLP; Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP; Vectren; and Indiana Business Magazine.

About the program presenters:

The state of Indiana's lead economic development agency, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation oversees Indiana's statewide business attraction and development efforts, coordinates state programs, and incentives for companies looking to grow in Indiana, and provides assistance and funding to Indiana entrepreneurs and high-tech start-ups.

The Indiana Small Business Development Centers offer free and low-cost information, management counseling and educational services to support the state's small-business owners and potential entrepreneurs, boosting economic development and creating jobs within the state.

The Purdue team supporting the program includes representatives from the Purdue Center for Regional Development and the Burton Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship in Discovery Park, the College of Agriculture, Krannert School of Management, Purdue Alumni Association, Purdue Cooperative Extension Service and Purdue Research Park.

The Edward Lowe Foundation, based in Cassopolis, Mich., created the Companies to Watch program to paint a realistic picture of a statewide or regional economy. The foundation also presents Companies to Watch in Michigan and Arizona, with 2009 awards programs planned for Colorado and the Jacksonville, Fla. region.

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