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## **Phoenix E-Waste Solutions Honored with Venture Award**

**Marshalltown, Iowa.** The Iowa Area Development Group (IADG) on behalf of Iowa's rural electric cooperatives and member municipal electric systems has honored eight distinguished Iowa companies with the Iowa Venture Award. The Iowa Venture Award ceremony is among the longest running business recognition events in Iowa. IADG has recognized and honored over 170 of Iowa's finest business leaders and companies with the prestigious Iowa Venture Award.

The Iowa Venture Award was presented to Phoenix E-Waste Solutions in Marshalltown, Iowa. Phoenix E-Waste Solutions is a Marshalltown company that handles the growing volume of computer "electronics-waste" that often ends up in landfill facilities. The company has built a 25,600 square foot facility that recycles many electronic components including monitors, computer hard drives and other electronic devices. Phoenix E-Waste "de-manufactures" these units down to their basic elements and recycles those materials back to the electronics industry. Phoenix E-Waste Solutions was nominated by Consumers Energy.

"The Iowa Venture Award is highly regarded as a business success recognition awards event with a strong history. Since 1988, IADG has recognized Iowa's leading companies that have helped sustain and grow the Iowa economy. Iowa Area Development Group is grateful to have the opportunity to honor and recognize these outstanding Iowa companies," said IADG president, Rand Fisher. "Each year we honor business leaders and entrepreneurs with the Iowa Venture Award. Our ceremony allows our sponsors to thank these accomplished companies for their commitment to Iowa through capital investment and job creation," added Fisher. Since 1985 the *Powerful Partnerships* and economic development efforts of IADG and their sponsoring utilities have helped generate over \$5.6 billion dollars of capital investment and over 38,000 jobs for Iowa.

Iowa Venture Awards were also presented to six other businesses for their significant contributions in diversifying and developing Iowa's economy. These 2008 Venture Award recipients include: American Eagle Accessories Group, Garner; Dakota Pack, Inc., Estherville; Involta, Cedar Rapids; ITC Midwest, Perry; Roorda Dairy LLC, Paullina; and Van Ess Dairy LLC, Sanborn. Iowa Department of Economic Development Director Michael L. Tramontina assisted IADG in presenting the Iowa Venture Awards.

IADG is the business and community development leader for Iowa's rural electric cooperatives and member municipal electric utilities. The 2008 Iowa Venture Awards ceremony was held at the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives' Annual Meeting on December 4, 2008, in West Des Moines.

Caption for attached photo: Iowa Department of Economic Development Director, Michael Tramontina, presented the award on behalf of the Iowa Area Development Group L.C., (IADG). Pictured left to right: Rand Fisher, President of IADG; Jan Paper, President, Consumers Energy; Brett Ladehoff; Mike Ladehoff, President, Phoenix E-Waste Solutions; Bob Collins, Vice President, Consumers Energy; Brian Heithoff, CEO/General Manager, Consumers Energy; and Michael Tramontina.