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## **Now Available: Governor's Excellence in Exporting Award Applications**

**Columbus** – Today the Ohio Department of Development's Global Markets Division announced that applications are now available for the 2011 Governor's Excellence in Exporting Awards (E-Awards). The E-Awards are presented each year to companies and organizations that have shown a strong commitment to increasing exports of Ohio goods and services or for creating a heightened awareness of exporting as a vital component of the state's economy.

"For the past 25 years, the Governor's Excellence in Exporting Awards has recognized Ohio's elite exporters for their strong participation in contributing to the growth of our state's global business climate," said Scott Kuehn, Director of the Department's Global Markets Division. "I encourage companies of all sizes, from Fortune 500 companies to small- to medium-size businesses that have increased international exports for a three-year period to apply and be honored for their contribution to Ohio's long-term prosperity."

Since the program's inception, more than 420 companies and organizations have been recognized as E-Awards recipients. Winning entries demonstrate outstanding export performance, including significant growth of export sales, significant dollar volume of export business, overcoming obstacles or challenges in exporting, and supporting Ohio's export industry.

Four Ohio companies, within their respective categories, will be recognized and receive the "Exporter of the Year" award. Each award is presented to a company that exemplifies the state's commitment to international trade. The deadline for entries is August 19, 2011. For applications and qualification guidelines, please visit [www.globalmarkets.development.ohio.gov](http://www.globalmarkets.development.ohio.gov), or call the Global Markets Division at (800) 848-1300, ext. 6-5017 or (614) 466-5017.

*The **Global Markets Division** of the **Ohio Department of Development** helps Ohio companies explore global trade opportunities and expand into new international trade markets. The **Global Markets Division** manages a network of international offices in Asia, Australia, the Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, India, North and South America, and Southern Africa.*

*Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works at the speed of business to accelerate and support the teamwork that is necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio's future.*

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