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**Wisconsin leaders awarded for commitment to recycling, sustainability**

*WasteCap Resource Solutions recognized WI DOA Division of State Facilities and WI Department of Natural Resources among others in building industry at awards ceremony*

MILWAUKEE – Wisconsin continues to make great strides in the way of recycling and sustainability, as evidenced by this year’s addition of “green” awards to The Daily Reporter’s 2009 Newsmakers of the Year Awards line up.

The green sponsor of the Newsmakers awards, WasteCap Resource Solutions, a nonprofit organization that provides waste reduction and recycling assistance for the benefit of business and the environment, presented the four green awards this year. The awards included Green Innovator of the Year, Big Diverter in Construction, Big Diverter in Demolition and Super Super.

“This year’s Newsmaker awards marks the first time we’ve collaborated with WasteCap for our green awards,” said Ann Richmond, publisher and vice president of The Daily Reporter. “In keeping with the increased focus on green building practices, this year we [highlighted] four ‘green’ winners.”

The four green awards recognized Hunzinger Construction Company as Big Diverter in Construction, Marquette University as Big Diverter in Demolition, Rick Senk as Super Super, and a collaborative partnership between the Wisconsin DOA Division of State Facilities and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as Green Innovators of the Year.

The Green Innovators of the Year award was a testament to the great strides the state of Wisconsin in making in sustainable building. In 2005, Gov. Jim Doyle established the Conserve Wisconsin Agenda, in which he committed to following green building standards for state buildings and set a 50 percent recycling goal for all state projects. In response, the DSF developed a Sustainable Facilities Policy and Guidelines, including C&D debris management guidelines.

“The DNR funded a contract to help the DOA Division of State Facilities implement successful, measured construction and demolition debris recycling on state projects,” said Jenna Kunde, executive director of WasteCap Resource Solutions.

The five pilot projects all exceeded the Governor’s 50 percent recycling goal, together averaging an 84.8 percent recycling rate. The DSF has now committed to recycling on all state projects that are demolition projects or are larger than \$5 million as of January 1, 2010.

“We selected the WI Department of Natural Resources and the WI Division of State Facilities as our Green Innovators of the Year for the interagency cooperation and incredible leadership in implementing recycling on state of Wisconsin projects,” said Kunde.

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As a testament to the recycling efforts going on in addition to state projects, Hunzinger Construction Company and Marquette University accepted awards for diverting the most waste from their construction and demolition projects, respectively.

Hunzinger took on the renovation and expansion of Johnson Controls' corporate headquarters in Glendale, and was able to divert 94.26 percent of the project's waste from area landfills. Johnson Controls' goal on the \$73 million project was to recycle 75 percent of demolition and construction waste, which was easily surpassed by the Hunzinger team, led by Project Manager Dan Davies.

Marquette University also did its part this year when it tore down its 1212 W. Wisconsin Ave. building. The project achieved a diversion rate of 98.51 percent, meaning less than two percent by weight of the materials from the demolition was sent to landfills.

"It's that ongoing commitment to sustainable practices and recycling that we celebrated at the Newsmakers awards," Kunde said.

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### **Additional Information:**

WasteCap Resource Solutions (formerly WasteCap Wisconsin) is a private, nonprofit, industry-supported 501(c)(3) organization which provides waste reduction and recycling assistance through business-to-business peer exchange, demonstration and education. WasteCap assists and encourages businesses to reduce their operating costs through improved production and solid waste management practices. WasteCap targets construction and demolition debris, food scraps and electronics. Services are made possible by the support of sponsorships, grants, fees for service, and memberships. WasteCap's vision: to transform waste into resources.

The annual Newsmakers of the Year event took place on October 28<sup>th</sup> at the Country Springs Hotel in Waukesha, Wisconsin. Hosted by The Daily Reporter and WI Builder, this event honors a variety of outstanding individuals from throughout the construction industry.