



INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL

*The Power of Knowledge and Leadership*

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## Media Release

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### ROSHEK BUILDING PROJECT EARNS DUBUQUE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Columbus, Ohio -- The City of Dubuque received an Excellence in Economic Development Award for their *Historic Roshek Building Redevelopment* in the category of Public-Private Partnerships for communities with populations of 25,000 – 200,000 from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). The honor was presented at an awards ceremony on Tuesday, Sept. 28, during the IEDC Annual Conference, Sept. 26-29, in Columbus, Ohio.

"We recognize the City of Dubuque for providing successful strategies to promote new paradigms in economic development in this period of global recovery," said William Best, IEDC chair. "Our awards honor organizations and individuals for their efforts in creating positive change in communities. The City of Dubuque is showing that they are at the forefront of the economic development profession and are using innovative and effective practices that can be replicated in other communities."

The redevelopment of the 1931 Historic Roshek Building in downtown Dubuque, Iowa, was a community-wide economic development effort led by Greater Dubuque Development Corporation to attract IBM Corporation and create 1,300 new Information Technology jobs in Dubuque. In addition to working with local colleges and universities to recruiting IBM, the project involved acquiring the largest commercial building in downtown from McKesson Corporation (who was relocating their operations to another location in the community), working with local financial institutions to secure the \$43 million financing required to completely renovate the Roshek Building, redeveloping the 250,000 square foot historic building to its original grandeur, committing to making the project sustainable through LEED Gold certification and community sustainability investments, and restoring the building as a retail cornerstone in the downtown. Public-private partnerships were the only way this monumental project could be accomplished. A partnership of 33 different organizations, including Dubuque Initiatives and the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, was forged to make this job-creation project a remarkable success during a national recession. This redevelopment project blended economic development, historic preservation, sustainability and technology into a showcase project that will have long term dramatic effects on the Dubuque downtown area and on the residents of the Tri-State area.

The Excellence in Economic Awards Program annually recognizes the world's best economic development programs and partnerships, marketing materials, and the year's most influential leaders. The program honors organizations and individuals in 28 categories for their efforts in creating positive change in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is the premier membership organization dedicated to helping economic development professionals create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities and improve the quality of life in their regions. Serving more than 4,500 members, IEDC represents the largest network of economic development professionals in the world. IEDC provides a diverse range of services, including conferences, certification, professional development, publications, research, advisory services and legislative tracking.

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