

NEWS RELEASE

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Dubuque Mayor Participates in Global Smart City Summit

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol recently returned from Tainan, Taiwan, where he was a featured speaker at the 2011 Global Smart City Summit.

Co-organized by Tainan City Government and Eco-City of the National Chiao Tung University, “The Global Smart City Summit” was held December 14-16. Buol was one of five city leaders invited to discuss how to merge municipal governance and design, smart living technology, and the ecological community to form an innovative integration mechanism, creating a urban development strategy in the new era of the knowledge economy. Dubuque was the only city from the western hemisphere represented at the summit, which featured speakers from Belgium, India, The Netherlands, and Sweden, as well as Taiwan.

Buol’s presentation, entitled “Sustainable Dubuque: Smart Technology and Community Engagement,” described the overall Sustainable Dubuque initiative and explained the Smarter Sustainable Dubuque research project with IBM and the critical role community engagement plays in related efforts.

Summit organizers say developing smart cities has become one of the most important missions in developed countries. A “smart city” aims to develop an integrated ecosystem of interconnected people, objectives and services as well as networked infrastructure enabled by pervasive and transparent technology, to improve the quality of living environment, to advance economic and political efficiency and to enhance social, cultural and urban development.

This annual summit not only serves as a platform for experience exchange and knowledge sharing, but also provides participants with learning opportunities including a well-connected cities workshop and smart technology achievement demonstration by enterprises. The well-connected cities workshop is aimed to help service providers, city leaders and agencies build the next generation of digitally enabled public services.