IBM Bringing 1,300 Jobs to Dubuque

On January 15, 2009, International Business Machines (IBM) Corporation announced it will open a new technology service delivery center in Dubuque, creating 1,300 new jobs.

Working with Greater Dubuque Development Corporation, the City of Dubuque, and Dubuque Initiatives, IBM has signed a 10-year lease, with optional extension years, to occupy the historic Roshek Building, also known as the Dubuque Building, at the corner of 8th and Locust Streets. Dubuque Initiatives, the nonprofit public/private partnership that has acquired the building, and IBM plan to renovate the building utilizing industry-leading IBM energy-efficient technology and environmentally friendly data center design.

“We selected the city of Dubuque for our new delivery center based on several criteria, including the strong positive public/private partnership within the city, a competitive business model, and the talent recruitment base that Iowa and the Midwest have to offer,” said Mike Daniels, senior vice president, IBM Global Technology Services. “During this time of economic uncertainty, IBM continues to invest in its future and recruit the skilled persons it will need to continue to grow its business. The Dubuque service center is a model for creating new opportunities and we look forward to working with the City and the State of Iowa.”

Iowa Governor Chet Culver came to Dubuque for the Jan. 15 announcement and said, “Today’s announcement is about three things – jobs, jobs, jobs. I want to welcome IBM to Iowa, and thank them for bringing these 1,300 high-quality, good-paying jobs to our state. Today’s announcement is one more sign that people around the country are discovering what we have known all along – that with our highly-skilled workforce, inviting business climate, and quality-of life, Iowa is a great place for business.”

Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol commented, “We are extremely proud that IBM chose Dubuque for this project and particularly thrilled about the role that Dubuque’s sustainability initiative played in that decision. IBM’s decision to locate in the Roshek Building, through adaptive reuse of a historic structure in the heart of our downtown, illustrates our shared commitment to sustainable development, historic preservation, and community revitalization.”

IBM intends to employ approximately 650 people in the new facility by the end of this year and 1,300 by the end of 2010. It is expected that 300 current IBM employees will relocate to Dubuque for this new center. IBM will work with institutions of higher learning in the tri-state area for recruitment and training of potential employees.

With an average wage of $46,000, IBM’s annual payroll in Dubuque will be about $60 million. IBM expects to spend $800 million for supplies, services, and employee expenses in the first 10 years in Dubuque.

The majority of the jobs at the Dubuque site will require a minimum of a two-year degree. To learn more or to apply for opportunities, visit any of the following websites: www.ibm.com/careers/us, www.accessdubuquejobs.com, or www.iowajobs.org.

IBM’s global delivery network incorporates over 80 centers around the world and serves thousands of clients. The technical service delivery center in Dubuque will provide server systems operations, including maintenance and monitoring of computer hardware and software systems, to IBM clients in the U.S. and around the world. The services utilize collaborative problem-solving and defect-prevention processes based on service management standards. Employees will manage IBM’s world-class servers and storage systems which are critical for assuring optimal information technology infrastructure performance.
**Sustainability-Themed City Expo Set for April 14**

The City of Dubuque will hold its annual City Expo on Tuesday, April 14, from 5-8 p.m. in the Five Flags Civic Center at 405 Main Street.

The theme for this year’s event is sustainability. Sustainability is defined by a community’s ability to meet the environmental, economic, and social equity needs of today without reducing the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

City Expo is designed to educate Dubuque residents about city programs, services, and resources. Through booths, displays, and demonstrations, City staff will provide information and answer questions residents may have. City Expo is a free, annual event that features activities and demonstrations designed for visitors of all ages. Dubuque residents are encouraged to bring their entire family. People who plan to attend are encouraged to bring their own bag to collect informational and promotional materials which may be provided. Refreshments will be provided.

**Landfill Now Requires Loads to be Covered**

All loads delivered to the Dubuque Metro Landfill must now be secured with a tarp or other cover, or placed in closed containers so that materials cannot fall or fly out. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that materials on vehicles traveling to the landfill facility do not become roadway litter and/or endanger motorists.

Loads must be covered from their point of origin and this requirement also applies to bulky materials and yard waste. Any vehicle without a cover will not be turned away, but will be subject to an additional fee of $10 per load for cars, pick-ups, and trailers and $25 for commercial vehicles and all others.

Variances from this policy due to extenuating circumstances may be requested but are not guaranteed. For more information regarding Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency policies, contact the Agency Administrator at 589-4250 or visit www.dmaswa.org.

**Tax Break for Working People**

The earned income tax credit (EITC) is the federal government’s largest program benefitting working families, but as many as 20% of eligible families do not claim the credit. That means hundreds of thousands of dollars are not finding their way into the pockets of Dubuque working families and individuals who have earned that money. If your family earned less than $41,646 in 2008 (or $12,880 if you do not have children living with you), you may qualify for the EITC when you file your tax return. The credit could give you up to $4,824!

The City of Dubuque has joined efforts with others in the community to connect working families with information on the EITC and free tax preparation services with the goal of strengthening working families and bringing more federal dollars into the local economy. Free help is available at community tax preparation sites. Free tax preparation is also available for income-qualified individuals and families. For additional information, call Information and Referral at 557-8331 or just dial 211.

**Yard Waste & Food Scrap Collection Resumes**

Regular weekly collection of yard waste will start April 6. Annual yard waste decals are now available at City Hall Utility Billing for $28. Every Thursday, collection for both yard debris and food scraps in GreenCarts is available until the new season starts. Request a specific Thursday pickup through the City website (www.cityofdubuque.org) or by calling 589-4250 before Wednesday at 3 p.m.

Weekly collection of food scraps and compostable paper in GreenCarts will start April 6. Request a subscription through the City website (www.cityofdubuque.org) or by calling 589-4250.

**Address Numbers**

The Dubuque Fire and Building Services Departments are reminding property owners to make sure their property’s street address is properly marked on their building and visible from the street.

It is a requirement of the International Building Code, International Fire Code, and United States Postal Code, that “New and existing buildings shall have approved address numbers, building numbers or approved building identification placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background...Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch.”

For more information, contact the Building Services Department at 589-4150 or 589-4195.
The City of Dubuque is sponsoring an educational program for property owners and property managers on how to reduce crime in rental housing. The event will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2009, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., at the NICC Town Clock Center, 680 Main Street, Dubuque, Iowa. The Dubuque Police Department, in partnership with the City's Housing and Community Development and Human Rights Departments, and City Attorney's Office is conducting the workshop.

This training program, the Dubuque Crime Free Multi-Housing Program, will provide comprehensive information on all aspects of managing property with a special emphasis on how to reduce crime in rental property. Participants of the program will receive a comprehensive guide to assist in maintaining a crime-free property. Participation in this training also qualifies landlords for reimbursement of costs associated with national criminal background checks of prospective tenants. Issues addressed in the training program include:

- Identifying quality tenants
- Writing rental agreements
- Handling evictions
- Property security and fire safety
- Police services
- Fair Housing

The seminar is co-sponsored by Northeast Iowa Community College. Presenters include City staff and local attorneys. Course participants are eligible to receive five hours of Real Estate Continuing Education Unit credit for the course. Registration is $25 and includes meals and course materials. There is an additional $6 charge for CEU credit. To register, contact the NICC Continuing Education Center at (563) 557-8271 or (888) 642-2338, ext. 380.
The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

**Tyson Brown**
Parks Division

**Andrew Fuerste-Henry**
Library

**Nathaniel Greene**
Police Department

**Jamie Hutchins**
Parking Division

**Brad Krause**
Police Department

**Justin Potter**
Police Department

**Sheila Samuelson**
City Manager’s Office: Sustainability

**Jacob Sellers**
Police Department

**Jan Stoffel**
City Manager’s Office: Arts & Culture

**Caren Tobin**
Police Department

**Retirements**

Congratulations to these employees who recently retired from the City of Dubuque:

**Martha Sacchini**
Library

**Calendar**

**March**

1  Public Ice Skating, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Five Flags Arena

6-7  Dubuque Hempstead High School presents “Music Man,” 7:00 p.m., Five Flags Theater

8  Dubuque Hempstead High School presents “Music Man,” 2:00 p.m., Five Flags Theater

8  Public Ice Skating, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Five Flags Arena

8  Mines of Spain Program: Bird Banding and Bird Identification, 1:00 p.m., E.B. Lyon’s Interpretive Center. FREE

10  Gaelic Storm, 7:30 p.m., Five Flags Arena

14-15  Dubuque Kennel Club Dog Show, Five Flags Arena (all-day event)

22  Mines of Spain Program: Digital Nature Photography, 1:00 p.m., E.B. Lyon’s Interpretive Center. FREE

27-28  Amp Live Presents: Thunder Slam Monster Truck, 7:30 p.m., Five Flags Arena

**April**

3-4  Dubuque Wahlert High School presents “Zombie Prom,” 7:00 p.m., Five Flags Theater

5  Dubuque Wahlert High School presents “Zombie Prom,” 2:00 p.m., Five Flags Theater

6  Weekly curbside collection of yard waste and food scraps resumes. Call 589-4250 for more information or visit the web site.

14  City Expo, 5-8 p.m., Five Flags Arena, FREE

18  Dubuque Symphony Orchestra: “Mahler No. Resurrection,” 7:30 p.m., Five Flags Theater

19  Dubuque Symphony Orchestra: “Mahler No. Resurrection,” 2:00 p.m., Five Flags Theater

This calendar is subject to change.

• Leisure Services: 589-4263, cityofdubuque.org
• Five Flags: 589-4258, fiveflagscenter.com
• E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center, Mines of Spain: 556-0620, minesofspain.org