



HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 21, 2009

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Houston-Galveston Area Council Hosts 2009 Clean Air Action Leadership “Best in Motion” Awards Ceremony

*Forty-five area companies and local governments recognized for efforts to reduce
air pollution and increase mobility*

September 21, 2009 – HOUSTON – On Wednesday, August 26, the Houston-Galveston Area Council held its 2009 Clean Air Action Leadership “Best in Motion” Awards Luncheon. At this annual event, area companies, organizations, local governments, transportation demand management professionals, and individuals were recognized for outstanding leadership in implementing voluntary measures reducing air pollution, improving the region’s mobility, and positively affecting the quality of life of employees and commuters throughout the Houston-Galveston area.

The event was emceed by Jerome Gray, Senior News Editor/Anchor of KPRC Local 2 News, and featured U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Administrator Gina McCarthy as the keynote speaker. McCarthy oversees the Office of Air and Radiation, which is responsible for the air quality activities of the EPA. During her address, McCarthy emphasized the importance of air quality programs that improve both health and mobility.

This year, a total of forty-five Houston-Galveston area companies, local governments and individuals received awards; two were honored with places on the area’s Best Workplaces for Commuters list, and thirty-four were designated the region’s first Clean Air Champions. In addition to awarding these designations, H-GAC also recognized a number of organizations and individuals that exhibited outstanding leadership in support of clean air initiatives with individual achievement awards.

Launched in 2003, the Houston-Galveston Area “Best Workplaces for Commuters” program has recognized more than 150 area companies for offering their employees commuter-friendly options and incentives, such as mass transit, vanpooling, NuRide, carpooling, teleworking, alternative work schedules, biking and walking, and other transportation services. “As mobility and air quality continue to challenge the growth of our region, employers of all sizes are

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realizing that they can be a part of the solution,” says Alan Clark, H-GAC Transportation Director. “We thank our Best Workplaces for Commuters business leaders and local governments who are committed to improving mobility and air quality by setting a powerful example through their participation in the region’s Commute Solutions Program and providing outstanding community leadership.”

Clean Air Champions is a new award for 2009 that honors Houston-Galveston area companies and local governments for making commitments to implement voluntary measures that improve our region’s air quality. These measures can include developing clean fleet policies, supporting alternative commuting methods for employees, developing a telework program, or even providing preferred parking for carpools and vanpools.

H-GAC congratulates these companies and local governments for leading the cause to improve the air we breathe, and the roads we travel.

2009 Recipients of Best Workplaces for Commuters membership:

Akari Energy

QuinServe Technologies, Inc.

Recipients of the 2009 Clean Air Champion Awards:

Local Governments

Brazoria County

City of Houston

Houston-Galveston Area Council

Chambers County

City of Sugar Land

Port of Houston Authority

Fort Bend County

Village of Surfside

Galveston County

Harris County

Liberty County

Montgomery County

Waller County

Companies and Organizations

Air Liquide USA, LLC

Anadarko Petroleum Corporation

BayTran

BP America

Bridgeway Capital Management

CenterPoint Energy

CompuCom

El Paso Corporation

Energy Corridor District

Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs

Medical Center

Occidental Oil & Gas Corporation

PricewaterhouseCoopers

QuinServe Technologies, Inc.

Smith International, Inc.

Solvay North American, LLC

South Main Center Association

STAR



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Texas Children's Hospital
The Methodist Hospital

The University of Texas M.D. Anderson
Cancer Center
Walter P. Moore

Recipient of the Roger Stone STAR Vanpool Leadership Award:

Nonie Cody

Recipients of the Regional Clean Air Leadership Awards:

Best Vanpool Program Award:

Smith International, Inc.

Best NuRide Program Award:

Schlumberger

Best Telework Program Award:

The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

Best Vanpool Driver Safety Education Program Award:

VPSI, Inc.

Outstanding Transportation Demand Management Leadership Award:

Bruce Coy

Air Quality Leadership Awards:

Public Sector

Clean Fleet Award - City of Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Clean School Bus Award - Dansbury ISD

Private Sector

Clean Fleet Award - Silver Eagle Distributors

2009 Best All-Around Clean Air Leadership Award:

H-E-B

H-GAC wishes to thank the following companies that generously sponsored this event:

METRO STAR

Port of Houston Authority



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BP America
CenterPoint
Chevron
El Paso Corporation
The Methodist Hospital

PricewaterhouseCoopers
Energy2Plus
The Goodman Corporation
Silver Eagle Distributors

About the Houston-Galveston Area Council:

The Houston-Galveston Area Council is the region-wide voluntary association of local governments in the 13-county Gulf Coast Planning region of Texas. Its service area is approximately 12,500 square miles and contains more than 5.7 million people.

H-GAC's mission is to serve as the instrument of local government cooperation, promoting the region's orderly development and the safety and welfare of its citizens. Additionally, H-GAC serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for transportation planning in the eight-county Houston-Galveston Area. This area includes Brazoria, Chambers, For Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller counties. H-GAC's Transportation Policy Council approves the Regional Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program.

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