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NEWS RELEASE

Edie Award Winners Announced

SPRINGFIELD – July 6, 2015 – The Illinois Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Illinois Economic Development Association (IEDA), is releasing the names of the winners of the seventh annual Economic Development in Illinois Awards – the Edies. Both groups are grateful to have ComEd on board again this year as the sponsor of the Edie Awards.

“Economic development is key to Illinois’ growth, and it is our honor to play a role in recognizing those companies across the state that are making a difference,” said Todd Maisch, president and CEO of the Illinois Chamber. “The Edies honor those who imagine, design, invest, and build in Illinois, and by doing so bring jobs, growth and prosperity to our communities.”

“The members of the Illinois Economic Development Association are very glad to partner with the Illinois Chamber of Commerce to recognize and honor these successful and growing businesses,” said Terry Denison, chairman of the board, IEDA. “These Edie Award winners are investing capital, time and energy into their communities; they are providing good job opportunities and they are being good corporate citizens. Congratulations!”

The five winners are:

St. Nicholas Brewing Co. (DuQuoin, Illinois) – The St. Nicholas Brewing Co. has had a tremendous impact on the DuQuoin community. The building, which started out as a hotel more than 125 years ago, has been recognized by the community as an important historical site. In 2005, the hotel closed for business and was abandoned. Fortunately, a restoration took place and was completed in August 2014, leading to the opening of a microbrewery and restaurant--The St. Nicholas Brewing Co.

The restoration was made possible through the financial assistance of Steve Carter, president and CEO of Knight Hawk Coal, and the Carter family. The project provided the city with progress and pride after years of historical buildings being demolished around the area. Less than one year from its opening, the St. Nicholas is now distributing beer throughout Southern Illinois. The brewery has had a significant positive impact on the city, creating 25 jobs and generating tourist dollars into the city’s economy. Most importantly, the younger generation in DuQuoin has embraced the project and desires to stay and reside in the community, leading to further economic growth in the future.

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Horizon Pharma (Deerfield, Illinois) – Given Horizon Pharma’s tremendous growth over the past few years, plans are continuously being developed and modified to accommodate the demand for additional office space. The company has recently expanded from one floor of office space at its Deerfield, Illinois location, to four floors, with further expansion plans in the future.

Horizon Pharma is one of Illinois’s fastest growing biopharmaceutical companies and is currently Chicago’s fastest growing company in revenue growth. With a market cap of more than \$5 billion, and the recent expansion project in Deerfield that has resulted in the addition of roughly 80 new, well-paying jobs, Horizon Pharma has favorably impacted the economy of Illinois.

Magid Glove & Safety Manufacturing Company LLC (Romeoville, Illinois) – One of the nation’s leading manufacturers and suppliers of personal protective equipment (PPE) and value-added services for the industrial and consumer markets, Magid Glove & Safety outgrew its existing two locations in Chicago and looked for a new facility to consolidate its primary manufacturing and distribution operations and headquarters into one campus. After a four-year site search, including looking at locations in Wisconsin, the company chose the property in Romeoville for its new headquarters. The relocation of the national headquarters into Romeoville has generated significant advancements for the community. The project has brought approximately 500 jobs to Romeoville, with about 50 new hires that are Romeoville residents.

This move supports Magid’s ability to provide the best safety solutions at the best value, furthering its vision for everyone to have safety at work. The company is a family-owned business founded in 1946 that started out with 20 employees and a 4,000 square foot manufacturing facility that was located in Chicago. Today, the company has grown to more than 500 employees and close to a million square feet of space with manufacturing facilities in the U.S. and the Philippines and distribution facilities in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

Practice Velocity (Machesney Park, Illinois) – Practice Velocity is emerging as an economic engine for the Village of Machesney Park thanks to years of growth, planning, and renovation. The company transformed a vacant department store at the Machesney Park Mall into its new home. Practice Velocity’s VelociDoc® electronic medical record (EMR) and PVM fully-integrated practice management system, in coordination with PV Billing, contracting, credentialing, and urgent care consulting services, are specifically designed to support the delivery of quality care and maximize revenue for urgent care centers. Practice Velocity has software installations in over 1,200 clinics in all 50 states.

Practice Velocity has notably impacted the city of Machesney Park. More than 250 jobs were retained in the community through its expansion and the company anticipates hiring 40 new employees each year for the next 10 years. Thanks to the company’s adaptive reuse and capital investment of the vacant old mall structure, employees have been attracted to the local Town Center, promoting future economic prosperity.

Shops and Lofts at 47 (Chicago, Illinois) – The Shops and Lofts at 47 is the first commercial and residential complex to be developed on 47th Street in the heart of Chicago’s Bronzeville neighborhood in decades. The mixed-use development replaces a three-acre site of deteriorated and vacant parcels and includes a five-story building with 55,000 square feet of ground-floor retail space, anchored by a Walmart Neighborhood Market providing groceries and a full-service pharmacy, and 72 units of mixed-income rental housing.

The project greatly exceeded expectations and contributed to 150 construction jobs, and 100 permanent full – and part-time jobs. The Shops and Lofts at 47 also serves as a catalyst to spur additional economic development and activity within the community by attracting more retailers, commercial businesses and residents. Skilken, a commercial real estate development firm specializing in retail development throughout the U.S., collaborated with minority-owned TROY Enterprises, who has a history of developing mixed-use projects in underserved urban areas, to complete the retail portion of the project. The residential component was developed by The Community Builders Inc. (TCB), one of the largest nonprofit developers of mixed-income housing in the country.

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