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Wisconsin Business Wins U.S. Chamber of Commerce Award PAi is a Blue Ribbon Small Business

WASHINGTON, DC—PAi in De Pere, Wisconsin has been honored today with a U.S. Chamber of Commerce Blue Ribbon Small Business Award. The award was given in recognition of the company's dedication to excellence in several categories.

“Winners of the Small Business Blue Ribbon Award have served their employees, customers, and communities with a consistent dedication that exemplifies America's spirit of enterprise,” said Giovanni Coratolo, executive director of the U.S. Chamber Small Business Council. “Small businesses are the backbone of America's economy, representing more than 99% of all employers, creating three-fourths of all new jobs, and accounting for more than one-half of the nation's gross domestic product.”

The Small Business Blue Ribbon Award, sponsored by AIG, was designed to honor businesses that showed excellence in a variety of selection criteria, including financial performance and business history, staff training and motivation, community involvement, customer service, and business planning.

Winners of the award from around the country will be honored at Access 2006, the Chamber's Small Business Summit. The award is part of the Chamber's Small Business of the Year selection process. One Blue Ribbon Small Business will be selected from each of seven regions as a finalist for the U.S. Chamber Small Business of the Year Award. The finalists will be announced on March 15.

“The initial goal was to recognize seven regional finalists and ultimately select one national winner,” said Coratolo. “However, we received so many outstanding applicants that we are able to honor a broader segment of the small business community. The small Business Blue Ribbon award enables us to recognize their hard work and tireless efforts.”

The U.S. Chamber is the world's largest business federation representing more than 3 million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region.