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Indy Partnership Named One of the Top 10 Economic Development Groups in the U.S. by *Site Selection* Magazine

Partnership representing 10 Central Indiana counties praised for attracting jobs and investment; new website called “one of the best we’ve ever seen”

INDIANAPOLIS (May 4, 2009) – *Site Selection*, a leading national economic development trade magazine, has named Indy Partnership one of the top 10 economic development groups in the country and will feature the organization in the May issue. Indy Partnership President and CEO Ron Gifford accepted the “Top 10” award today in Asheville, NC, at the national meeting of the Industrial Asset Management Council.

Among thousands of economic development groups nationwide, Indy Partnership is being singled out by the editors of *Site Selection* for its record of attracting jobs and investment to the 10-county Indianapolis Region. The seven specific criteria employed by *Site Selection* to evaluate economic development groups include investment, investment per capita, total jobs created, jobs created per capita, overall economic vitality, depth and breadth of economic strength, and ability to generate breakthrough deals.

“The Indy Partnership has performed well for many years, but recent achievements and their ability to leverage regional assets, business cluster strengths, and good old-fashioned hard work and ingenuity have earned them an honored place among the top 10 economic development groups in the United States,” said Ron Starner, general manager for *Site Selection* magazine. “Even though it wasn’t part of the judging criteria for the top 10 groups, it’s worth noting that the new Indy Partnership website is one of the best economic development websites we’ve ever seen.”

In 2008, Indianapolis Region businesses announced the creation of nearly 13,000 new jobs and capital investment of \$2.3 billion related to those jobs. “These new and existing companies who have expanded or located new operations here are the real champions who deserve our recognition,” Gifford added.

“It’s a great honor to be listed among the top ten economic development groups in the country by the number one industry magazine,” Gifford said. “But what this award really recognizes is the vitality of the Indianapolis Region as a great place to expand or locate a business—the qualities that also led *Site Selection* to rank us fifth nationally for ‘Best State Business Climate’.”

“We also share this honor with our partners at our ten county economic development organizations and at the Indiana Economic Development Corporation,” said Gifford. “We work closely as an effective team to promote the region, and we’re proud to accept this award on their behalf as well.”

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Indy Partnership introduced new branding and a new website at its annual meeting in February. The website includes advanced geographic information systems (GIS) mapping technology that allows prospects to search for available sites and buildings as well as create custom demographic data maps that are vital to the business location and expansion process. Many features of the new website are the first of their kind within the economic development industry.

Gifford explained that the Indy Partnership is privately-funded by investments from more than 80 companies operating in the Indianapolis Region. “None of this positive national attention would be possible without the generous support of our investors,” Gifford said. Those interested in becoming Indy Partnership investors should contact Director of Corporate Development Rob Albright at ralbright@indypartnership.com or call 317-532-4773.

About Indy Partnership

Indy Partnership is a privately-funded, not-for-profit organization dedicated to bringing new jobs and capital investment to the Indianapolis Region. The Indianapolis Region is made up of 10 Central Indiana counties including Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Madison, Marion, Morgan, Monroe, and Shelby counties. Key services include point of contact for business development leads, incentives assistance, business research and demographic data, and regional marketing. For more information please visit www.indypartnership.com.

About Site Selection Magazine

Site Selection magazine, published by Conway Data Inc., delivers expansion planning information to 44,000 executives of fast-growing firms. The senior publication in the development field, *Site Selection* is also available via *Site Selection Online* (www.siteselection.com). *SiteNet Dispatch*, a weekly e-mail newsletter, goes to more than 29,000 industry professionals.

About Conway Data

Conway Data is an international publishing and association management company headquartered in Atlanta. The firm manages the Industrial Asset Management Council, the Development Hall of Fame and the World Development Federation (WDF), offers consulting services and awards the annual Conway Safe Skies Award.

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