

SMART



GVERNMENT



The Award Winners Are Here

Honorees gather for annual award ceremony

Also Inside...

DOC picks its Bright Ideas Contest winners

Spring 2009

INNOVATIONS IN STATE GOVERNMENT AWARDS EDITION



The Productivity Board has always been committed to excellence in public service by demonstrating leadership. Through the Employee Suggestion Program and the Teamwork Incentive Program, the board is able to encourage public employees to create, innovate and apply first-rate ideas.



Secretary Sam Reed and State Auditor Brian Sonntag discuss their speeches

Every year, the Productivity Board honors the best suggesters, evaluators, and agency coordinators that our State Government has to offer in our Annual Innovations in State Government Awards Ceremony. This year's event took place on Tuesday, February 24 in the Capitol Rotunda of the Legislative Building and was attended by more than -- directors and employees of our great state.

Celebrating a year that saw the Employee Suggestion and Teamwork Incentive Programs save \$2,586,310, Secretary of State Sam Reed and State Auditor Brian Sonntag were both on hand to deliver their heartfelt gratitude to all state employees for their innovative ideas and reward some of the year's best.

"Undoubtedly, state employees are the crux to the success of this program," Secretary Reed said. "Their innovation and creativity have saved the state millions in tax-payer dollars in just 25 years."

Twenty-one employees, including two Teamwork Incentive Program teams and six agency evaluators, were honored with awards. The Department of Transportation also won Agency of the Year, marking the second consecutive year the agency has been honored with the award.

To see more photos of the celebration, and to find out more about the Employee Suggestion Program, please visit our website at www.secstate.wa.gov/productivityboard.

2009 AWARD WINNERS:

Suggestions Achieving Highest Savings



GREG HANSEN
Department of Transportation.
\$1,801,800

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, Greg Hansen, DOT Chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth

**GUY BARRETT
& IVY ANDERSON**
Department of Ecology
\$116,286



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Guy Barrett, Secretary Reed, Ivy Anderson



MELANIE PALMER
Office of the Attorney General
\$120,000

Secretary Reed and Melanie Palmer

CHERYL DEMSPEY
Department of Transportation.
\$95,413



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, Cheryl Demspey, DOT Chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth



2009 AWARD WINNERS:

Energy Conservation Award



ROBERT EVANS

Department of Transportation.

Robert Evans suggested that the Department of Transportation install infrared sensors in front of the doors housing the natural gas burners at its Corson Site that would turn the heaters off if the doors are open, saving on the use of gas.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, Robert Evans, DOT Chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth

Safety Award



RICK MASON & BOB HYNEK

Department of Transportation.

Rick Mason and Bob Hynek suggested that the Department of Transportation build or buy steel construction entrances plates instead of using rock. They're suggestion was implemented at the beginning of 2009. (DOT chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth accepts on their behalf)

Secretary Reed and DOT Chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth

Innovative Team Award



BRIDGE PRESERVATION OFFICE DIVE TEAM

Department of Transportation.

The Department of Transportation had previously contracted underwater bridge inspection work mainly to out-of-state consultants. The BPO had engineers trained as divers to perform these mandated underwater inspections. This enabled the agency to eliminate all out-of-state consultants and save \$196,596.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, James Harding, David Bruce, DOT Chief of Staff Steve Reinmuth, Darren Nebergall, Shawn Plichta and Richard Pawelka

Teamwork Incentive Team Award



FINANCIAL SUPPORT SERVICE PROJECT

Liquor Control Board,

Krista Wisner and Tia Livingwood were able to collect \$50,141 in returned revenue from various vendors by planning and instituting a completely new retrieval process. They also sent information about the agency's Electronic Fund Transfer Program, a move that may net Washington State more revenue in years to come.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DiAnna Bohart, Administrative Director Pat Kohler, Tia Livingood, Secretary Reed, Krista Wisner and Ruthann Kurose



2009 AWARD WINNERS:

Outstanding Evaluators



ALICE ADAMS

Social & Health Services

Secretary Reed and Alice Adams



BRYAN BAZARD

General Administration

Secretary Reed and Bryan Bazard



RANDY SIMMONS

Liquor Control Board

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Ruthann Kurose, Pat Kohler, Secretary Reed, Randy Simmons and DiAnna Bohart



GREG HANSEN

Department of Transportation

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, Greg Hansen and DOT Chief of State Steve Reinmuth



JAMES SHAW & STEVE STRAUS

Department of Transportation

Secretary Reed and DOT Chief of State Steve Reinmuth accepting on their behalf

Coordinator of the Year



LYNN HICKS

Department of Transportation

Lynn Hicks oversaw one of the busiest years a single agency has ever had with the Productivity Board. She also helped oversee a large marketing plan within the agency.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Secretary Reed, Lynn Hicks, and DOT Chief of State Steve Reinmuth

Agency of the Year



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

The Department of Transportation and its employees helped saved the state of Washington \$1,953,571 through their suggestions, which topped 85 in 2008. The agency's Bridge Preservation Team also saved \$196,596. With the help of a sleek marketing plan, and the tireless efforts of DOT's innovative employees, the agency became a leader in the effort to change the way Washington does business through the Employee Suggestion and Teamwork Incentive Programs.