



*To Promote a Better
Understanding of
Industry's Role
in Protecting
the Environment*

News Release

Virginia Manufacturers Association

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2007 Virginia Industry Environmental Conference and 12th Annual Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards Showcase Industry's Best

RICHMOND – The Virginia Manufacturers Association (VMA) and VMA Outreach partnered with DEQ to host the 5th Annual Virginia Industry Environmental Conference and the 12th Annual Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards. This year's conference theme featured the role that innovative technology plays in environmental regulation and environmental excellence.

Keynote speakers included Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling and EPA Region 3 Director Donald Welsh. Other speakers included Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources Nikki Rovner and DEQ Director David Paylor. The most anticipated event of the conference was the banquet honoring the recipients of the **Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards (GEEA)**. This award program encourages excellence in environmental management by recognizing achievements that go beyond compliance toward environmental stewardship. Since the inception of this program in 1995, VMA Outreach has facilitated the competition and hosted the presentation of the awards. The GEEA program was also codified as part of the DEQ Environmental Excellence Program in 2005. The awards banquet was sponsored by VMA Outreach, VMA and Georgia-Pacific Corporation.

Brett Vassey, VMA President and CEO, welcomed the guests and introduced the first speaker of the conference, DEQ Director David Paylor. Vassey stated that, "David's leadership inspires cooperation and he fosters an environment of collaboration. He understands that balance is necessary to encourage one to reach beyond compliance." Paylor gave an overview of current DEQ priorities and discussed potential legislative issues for the 2008 legislative session. Deputy Secretary Rovner presented an executive summary of the recently released Virginia Energy Plan developed by the Kaine Administration. Lt. Governor Bolling; EPA Region 3 Director Donald Welsh; Deputy Secretary Rovner; Rick Higbie, VMA Chairman; Evans Drake, VMA Outreach Chairman; DEQ Director David Paylor; and, DEQ Chief Deputy Rick Weeks all participated in the GEEA ceremony.

This year there were 14 GEE Awards presented. This is a 36% increase in awards over 2006. This year adds to the 150+ applications over the 12 years of the GEEA program. There are two categories for awards based on the size of the organization. The companies with 500 and more employees are considered large and those with fewer than 500 are considered small manufacturers. There are three levels of achievement in the program and project categories - gold, silver, and bronze. There are two additional categories for all companies – environmental product and land management/preservation. GEEA applications are judged by an independent

panel and numerically scored for achievement. The numeric scoring system encourages companies to strive for environmental excellence by improving their programs or projects each year. The judges may award the top ranking Gold award recipient a Virginia GEEA Flag bearing the Commonwealth's seal. This is the top award for any category.

The 2007 Governor's Environmental Excellence Award recipients are as follows:

<i>Environmental Projects – Smaller Manufacturer</i>	<i>Award Level</i>
Potomac Supply Corporation – Kinsale	SILVER
Southern Graphic Systems – Richmond	GOLD
<i>Environmental Projects – Larger Manufacturer</i>	
Anheuser-Busch, Inc. – Williamsburg Brewery	SILVER
DuPont Company – Front Royal Plant	SILVER
International Paper – Franklin Paper Mill	GOLD & FLAG WINNER
Merck & Co., Inc. – Stonewall Plant & Hopewell Reg. Wastewater Treatment Facility	SILVER
Smithfield Packing Company, Inc. – South	BRONZE
Smithfield Packing Company, Inc. – Smithfield Transportation	SILVER
Smurfit-Stone Container Enterprises, Inc. – Hopewell Mill	BRONZE
<i>Environmental Programs – Larger Manufacturer</i>	
DuPont Company – Spruance Plant	SILVER
Philip Morris USA – M/C, Cabarrus, Park 500, R.E. & F/M	SILVER
Philip Morris USA – Park 500	SILVER
Smithfield Foods, Inc. – Corporate Headquarters	GOLD & FLAG WINNER
<i>Land Conservation – Larger Manufacturer</i>	
BP America, Inc. - York	GOLD

The VMA and VMA Outreach would also like to thank the 2007 GEEA Judges for their commitment to the highest standards of environmental excellence.

Richard (Rick) Weeks Chief Deputy Dept. of Environmental Quality	Ike Flory Asst. Professor of Electrical Engineering Technology Old Dominion University
Robert Blankenship Environmental Manager Novozymes Biologicals, Inc.	Denise Thompson Director of Environmental Policy VA Municipal League
James Bacon Editor Bacon's Rebellion	Michael Stoneberger Alcoa
Gerard (Gerry) Seeley Regional Director – Piedmont Office Dept. of Environmental Quality	Jim Thornton Director of Environmental Health and Safety Northrup Grumman
Ronald J. Jefferson Manager, External Affairs Appalachian Power	Michael Murphy Environmental Enhancement Dept. of Environmental Quality

For more information on VMA Outreach, the Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards or the Virginia Manufacturers Association, go to www.vamanufacturers.com.