

**Economic Development Administration
Performance Awards
Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2008**

The week of July 28, 2008, Sandy K. Baruah, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, announced three EDA Performance Award recipients for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2008.

Recipient: City of Perham, Minnesota (Perham)

Project Location: Perham, Minnesota

Performance Award Amount: \$30,000

EDA Original Investment Amount: \$300,000

Investment Description:

In 2005, EDA invested \$300,000 to upgrade and expand Perham's wastewater treatment facilities.

Description of Performance Award Achievements:

EDA's investment funded infrastructure improvements necessary to support growth in the regional food-processing cluster. The upgraded and expanded infrastructure promoted a \$25 million investment by a major food processor to transition the workforce from manual to skilled labor. This investment resulted in higher-skill, higher-wage jobs for the region, increasing its ability to compete in the global marketplace. Perham earned an EDA Performance Award because it exceeded the project's construction timetable and demonstrated outstanding regional collaboration and organizational leadership.

Recipient: Northampton Community College (NCC)

Project Location: Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Performance Award Amount: \$120,000

EDA Original Investment Amount: \$1,200,000

Investment Description:

In 2006, EDA invested \$1,200,000 for the conversion of a former steel plant into the Northampton Community College's Workforce Development Training Center.

Description of Performance Award Achievements:

EDA's investment redeveloped a portion of the former Bethlehem Steel and the surrounding South Bethlehem Keystone Innovation Zone (KIZ) into a facility designed to attract and develop advanced-technology start-up firms. NCC converted a portion of an existing facility into its Workforce Development Training Center, equipping it with the flexibility to be responsive to future workforce training needs of almost any firm locating in the KIZ. NCC earned an EDA Performance Award because it completed the project a year ahead of schedule and currently is training twice the projected number of students.

Recipient: Nevada's Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology (NCET)

Project Location: Carson, Nevada

Performance Award Amount: \$20,000

EDA Original Investment Amount: \$200,000

Investment Description:

In 2005, EDA invested \$200,000 in NCET to support entrepreneurs specializing in the manufacture of high-tech products by providing advisory services and linking public and private organizations focused on business start-ups and expansions.

Description of Performance Award Achievements:

EDA's investment funded two conferences for entrepreneurs, video and web-based conferences for rural entrepreneurs, a business competition for students, and a study on the feasibility of developing a satellite facility in southern Nevada. NCET earned an EDA Performance Award because it significantly exceeded the objectives of this investment plan and expanded the project by attracting additional public-sector funding.