

## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 23, 2006

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## **MINNESOTA COUNCIL FOR QUALITY APPROACHES 250 MEMBERS**

The Minnesota Council for Quality is proud to report that its membership was nearly 250 at the end of 2005. "This is a testament to the commitment organizations and individuals in this state have to on-going improvement and performance excellence," says Brian Lassiter, president of the Council.

As of December 31, the Council had 243 members representing nearly 160,000 employees in and beyond Minnesota. "The Council had 17 members in May of 2002," says Lassiter. "While the tremendous growth in membership should be celebrated, we have a long way to go to reach our vision of helping organizations around the state reach higher levels of performance."

The Council would like to recognize 48 organizations and individuals who joined or renewed their membership in the third quarter. Special recognition goes to Allina Hospitals & Clinics and the Mayo Clinic-Rochester for renewing as Sponsoring Members. Their contributions help support more affordable memberships for individuals and smaller organizations.

"Allina and Mayo are two organizations dedicated to high quality clinical and patient care," says Lassiter. "Both organizations are also firmly committed to organizational performance excellence. We thank them for their continued support."

In addition to Allina and Mayo, these individuals and organizations became members last quarter (asterisks indicate renewal members):

Anagram International, Eden Prairie, MN\*  
Tim Andrews, Apple Valley, MN\*  
Bartels Management Consulting, St. Paul, MN\*  
Benedictine Health System, Cambridge, MN\*  
Carstens Consulting Corporation, Spring Lake Park, MN\*  
Century College Customized Training, White Bear Lake, MN\*  
Collaboract Consulting, Minneapolis, MN  
Karen Copp, River Falls, WI\*  
Ecolab Fueling the Future Lean Sigma Initiative, St. Paul, MN  
Emerald Quality Services, Minneapolis, MN\*  
Employee Communications, Apple Valley, MN\*  
Endurant Business Solutions, Eden Prairie, MN\*  
Steve George, St. Louis Park, MN\*  
Hazelden Foundation, Center City, MN\*  
Hillswick Group, LTD, Brooklyn Park, MN\*  
Ikonics Corporation, Duluth, MN  
In\*sight Solutions Group, Inc., St. Paul, MN\*

Indian Health Board of Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN\*  
insightformation, Inc., Golden Valley, MN\*  
James Haedtke, Burnsville, MN\*  
Johnson Consulting Group, Minneapolis, MN\*  
LJ Menke Consulting, Shoreview, MN\*  
Lynn & Associates, Shorewood, MN\*  
Lois Mackin, Plymouth, MN\*  
McNeil & Associates, Eden Prairie, MN  
MedSpeed, Elmhurst, IL  
Steven Nelson, Brooklyn Park, MN  
North Memorial Quality Services Department, Robbinsdale, MN\*  
Northstar Quality, Inc., Kilkenny, MN\*  
Opportunity Partners, Minnetonka, MN  
Opportunity Services, Inc., Red Wing, MN\*  
Ronning Leadership Seminars, Eden Prairie, MN  
SayYess!, St. Louis Park, MN  
Spirit Grove Art & Photography, Roseville, MN  
St. Jude Medical, AV and CD Divisions, Minnetonka, MN  
Jim Stahley, Burnsville, MN\*  
Stat-Ease, Inc., Minneapolis, MN\*  
Sunny Fresh Foods, Monticello, MN\*  
Synergy Resource Group, Inc., Plymouth, MN\*  
Virchow, Krause and Company, Bloomington, MN\*

We thank all members for their support. A complete list of members is available at <http://www.councilforquality.org/member.cfm>.

Membership in the Council not only supports quality and performance excellence throughout Minnesota and beyond, but also provides members discounts to Council services, discounts to Council partner services, and other tangible benefits. Individual memberships are \$100 and organization memberships begin at \$250.

#### **About the Minnesota Council for Quality**

Founded in 1987, the Minnesota Council for Quality is a non-profit corporation that advances improvement and performance excellence within organizations, individuals, and communities. The Council helps leaders identify strengths and improvement opportunities and builds networks that bring information, resources, knowledge, and best practices to organizations desiring to improve. We do this by offering services such as our Baldrige-based organizational assessments (and Minnesota Quality Award), the Performance Improvement Network, the Consultant Referral Network, and the improvement Clearinghouse, and by collaborating with other non-profits that focus on improvement. For more information, please visit our website at [www.councilforquality.org](http://www.councilforquality.org).

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