

# *News Release*



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## **2009 Business Weekly Innovation Awards: Call for Nominations**

Fort Wayne, Ind. – Northeast Indiana organizations committed to quality and innovation are invited to participate in the 2009 Business Weekly Innovation Awards. The awards program was designed to spotlight up-and-coming entrepreneurs, inventors and other innovators in the Fort Wayne region. Ongoing support of these trailblazers will help sustain the region as vibrant, growing and competitive.

Now in its fourth year, the awards program is presented by the Greater Fort Wayne Business Weekly and title sponsor **BKD, LLP**. The program is founded on the concept that improving business innovation improves the region, specifically by supporting organizations that generate and implement ideas that create or expand job opportunities.

The awards program covers eight categories: health care; manufacturing and distribution; emerging companies; real estate, construction and design; technology; retail; professional services and best innovative idea. Award recipients are selected in each category through two rounds of judging. The first round is judged by a panel of corporate sponsors who evaluate the applications to identify genuinely innovative companies. First-round category winners then make a presentation and answer questions for a panel of judges comprised of seven successful entrepreneurs, who select an overall “Innovator of the Year.”

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Interested organizations should submit a nomination form by August 14, 2009.

Recipients will be announced at an awards luncheon November 5, 2009, and will be featured in a special award publication.

The following companies are recipients of past Business Weekly Innovation Awards:

- **Solstice Medical LLC**, Fort Wayne Overall 2008 Innovation Award and Health Care category winner
- **LacPro Industries LLC**, Fort Wayne Overall 2007 Innovation Award and Health Care category winner
- **Rubber Innovators LLC**, Columbia City Overall 2006 Innovation Award and Manufacturing & Distribution category winner

Downloadable nomination materials and more information are available online at [www.fwbusiness.com](http://www.fwbusiness.com). Click the Events tab at the top of the page; Innovation Awards is listed first.

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#### **About BKD**

**BKD** is the top-tier U.S. CPA and advisory firm that delivers its experience and service with a deep understanding of your business, your needs and what it takes to improve your business performance. BKD's approximately 2,000 personnel, including approximately 250 partners, are based in 31 offices serving clients in 50 states. To learn more, visit [www.bkd.com](http://www.bkd.com).

Praxity, AISBL, a global alliance of independent firms, enhances BKD's ability to serve the dynamic needs of multinational clients. Praxity™ provides the gateway to tax, assurance and consulting services delivered by alliance firms committed to the highest standards required in international business.

**KPC Media Group, Inc.** began publishing the **Greater Fort Wayne Business Weekly** in March 2005 ([www.fwbusiness.com](http://www.fwbusiness.com)). KPC Media Group is the parent company of three daily newspapers in northeastern Indiana, four weekly publications and several niche products. Among the niche products are local phone books, a family monthly magazine, a home-style quarterly magazine, a free Spanish newspaper and three monthly real estate guides distributed in northeastern Indiana.