



AdvantageWest Economic Development Group
2010 Innovation Advantage Award
Nomination Instructions

The **2010 Innovation Advantage Award** will debut at the 7th Annual Carolina Connect conference with the addition of the Innovation/Intrapreneurship Track. This award will be presented to an existing industry or business in the AdvantageWest region that has demonstrated a culture of innovation within their corporate infrastructure.

Eligibility:

- Demonstrate how adapting an innovative culture has increased teamwork, competitive advantage and overall productivity.
- Examples of corporate imagination/innovation that originated from within the organization and by tapping into the intellectual capital of employee teams.
- Innovation must be a proven success. It must have had a positive, important effect on product or service, to improve quality or reduce cost. Innovation is the implementation of new methods and new technologies. It is not merely an idea that has merit and may be successful in the future.
- The innovation must be a significant advance, not just a natural evolution of existing methods, common sense, or good practice.
- Have a presence located in the [23-county AdvantageWest region](#).

Format and What to Include:

- Nominations should explain how the nominee demonstrates excellence in the above mentioned criteria.
- Nominations should be detailed and specific, providing examples of merit when possible.
- Nominations should include all basic information about the nominee, including address, phone, website, and county in which it is based.
- Nominators should include full name, daytime phone number(s) and email address, in case there are questions or clarification is needed.

Selection Process and Deadline for Entries:

- Application forms must be received by April 30, 2010, emailed to Pam Lewis at plewis@awnc.org.
- Applications will be reviewed by the Entrepreneurship Selection Committee.
- Awards will be given at the 7th Annual Carolina Connect Conference on May 13, 2010.
- Nominations will be held in confidence.

***For more information or if you have questions,
please contact Pam Lewis at plewis@awnc.org***