



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***ColoradoBiz* and Association for Corporate Growth (ACG) Denver to Partner on *CEO of the Year* Event**

*GREENWOOD VILLAGE* - Sept 7, 2011 – *ColoradoBiz* publisher Bart Taylor announced today a partnership with the **Association for Corporate Growth (ACG) Denver** for the magazine's *CEO of the Year* program. Chief executive officers from businesses throughout state have been recognized in the magazine's December issue, with a formal awards reception held in January following the release of the magazine.

ACG will co-sponsor the event and work with *ColoradoBiz* to identify worthy candidates, participate in the judging process, and assist in publicizing and supporting the program throughout the year.

Past *CEO of the Year* winners include Jeff Potter, Frontier Airlines, Denver; Steve Ells, Chipotle Mexican Grill, Denver; Marc Katz, Mercury Payment Systems, Durango; Kim Jordan, New Belgium Brewery, Fort Collins; Mark and Annie Danielson, Danielson Designs, Trinidad; and Mike Gilliland, Sunflower Farmers Markets, Boulder.

Taylor cited ACG's influence within Colorado's community of business executives as a prime mover of the partnership.

"We've been fortunate to be involved with ACG's Corporate Growth Conference the past several years and have so much respect for the people who work and volunteer for ACG and for the substance of what they do," Taylor said. "As we discussed ways to build on our success with *CEO of the Year*, it just made sense to expand our partnership and tap their considerable expertise and influence. We're thrilled they agreed."

ACG Denver President Kathleen Quinn Votaw underscored how the partnership would enhance the organization's annual series of events.

"ACG Denver is the place to connect with the people and the ideas you need to grow your business, and *CEO of the Year* is becoming a 'must attend' event for our membership and the business community at large. The program is also a meaningful compliment to our annual calendar of events including ACG Denver's Corporate Growth Conference."

The *CEO of the Year* program is a culmination of the magazine's yearlong process of ranking and identifying Colorado's top businesses and business leaders. The pool of nominees includes executives from *ColoradoBiz* lists like Top 250 Private Companies; Top 50 Family-Owned, Top 100 Woman-owned and Top 50 Minority-Owned businesses; Colorado Companies to Watch; Top Company, and others. Nominees will now include winners and finalists from ACG's long-standing Corporate Growth Awards, as well as an at-large pool to be developed by both parties.



Twenty-five finalists, eight each from small, medium and large business and one overall winner will be selected and featured in the December issue of *ColoradoBiz*. Honorees and dignitaries including past finalists and winners will be recognized at an awards reception in January.

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