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## Media Release

For Immediate Release September 28, 2010

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## SUMTER DEVELOPMENT BOARD RECEIVES HONORABLE MENTION FOR EXCELLENCE IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Sumter Development Board received an Honorable Mention for Excellence in Economic Development for their *The American Spirit, Global Edge Pocket Folder* in the category of General Purpose Brochure for communities with populations of 25,000 – 200,000 from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).

The honor was presented at an awards ceremony on Tuesday, September 28 during the IEDC Annual Conference, September 26-29 in Columbus, Ohio.

"We recognize Sumter Development Board for providing successful strategies to promote new paradigms in economic development in this period of global recovery," said William Best, IEDC chair. "Our awards honor organizations and individuals for their efforts in creating positive change in communities. The Sumter Development Board is showing that they are at the forefront of the economic development profession and are using innovative and effective practices that can be replicated in other communities."

The American Spirit, Global Edge Pocket Folder was designed to introduce site selection consultants and corporate decision makers to the Sumter community. The Folder is not an in-depth publication, but was created to give potential collaborators a quick synopsis about Sumter, SC. It was created to get 'a foot in the door'. In order to convince businesses to locate in Sumter County, they developed an effective and attractive presentation in an effort to 'close the deal'. With its 8 printed pages and universal DVD, the American Spirit, Global Edge Pocket Folder is an effective way to use multimedia to capture their audience's attention.

The Excellence in Economic Awards Program annually recognizes the world's best economic development programs and partnerships, marketing materials, and the year's most influential leaders. The program honors organizations and individuals in 28 categories for their efforts in creating positive change in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is the premier membership organization dedicated to helping economic development professionals create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities and improve the quality of life in their regions. Serving more than 4,500 members,

IEDC represents the largest network of economic development professionals in the world. IEDC provides a diverse range of services, including conferences, certification, professional development, publications, research, advisory services and legislative tracking.

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