



TWO PRESTIGIOUS CHICAGO INSTITUTIONS SOLICIT ENTRIES FOR '2004 CHICAGO CFO OF THE YEAR'

Awarded Jointly By National Investor Relations Institute's Chicago Chapter and Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, Nominations Close March 22

Chicago, February 11, 2004 - The Chicago chapter of the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI-Chicago) and Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management today announced they have launched the search for the "2004 Chicago CFO of the Year." Intended to identify CFOs of Chicago-based public companies who have demonstrated exceptional ability to add value to their companies through strategic investor relations, the award has drawn national commendation and is one of NIRI-Chicago's flagship programs.

Previous winners include George E. Strickler of BorgWarner Inc. in 2003 and Brian Anderson of Baxter International in 2002.

"An effective CFO can influence his or her company's market valuation by developing and executing corporate strategy, clearly articulating that strategy to multiple audiences, and implementing 'best practices' investor relations," said Cindy Klimstra, President of NIRI-Chicago. "This award recognizes a Chicago CFO who demonstrates strong leadership and investor relations savvy, whether it is through a particularly challenging event, or a career of consistent achievement."

Nominees will be judged based on proven ability to add value to his or her public company through the development, support and execution of strategic investor relations. NIRI defines investor relations as: "A strategic management responsibility using the disciplines of finance, communication and marketing to manage the content and flow of company information to financial and other constituencies to maximize relative valuation."

Anyone seeking to nominate a candidate may do so, and the process is easy to complete.

- Any CFO of a Chicago area-based public company may be nominated.
- You do not have to be an employee of the nominee's company or a member of NIRI to submit a nomination.
- Candidates must have been with their companies for at least one year as CFO prior to nomination.

The nomination period ends March 22, 2004. Details and application materials are available at <http://www.niri-chicago.org/cg/awards/cfo.html>.

About NIRI-Chicago

The members of NIRI-Chicago include corporate officers, consultants, service providers, academics, and others involved in the practice of investor relations - a strategic management responsibility that integrates finance, communication, marketing and securities law compliance. With 214 members, NIRI-Chicago is one of the largest NIRI chapters in the United States. For more information about our organization, please visit our website at www.niri-chicago.org.

About the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University

The Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University was founded in 1908 and is widely recognized as a global leader in graduate business education. The school is home to a renowned, research-based faculty and MBA students from more than 60 countries and six continents. Kellogg offers full-time, part-time and executive MBA programs as well as numerous non-degree Executive Education Programs. The Kellogg School also offers three joint degree programs: the JD/MBA; MD/MBA; and MEM/MBA. Additionally, the Kellogg School has alliances with business schools in Europe, Asia and Canada.

Kellogg revolutionized graduate management education more than 50 years ago when it introduced executive education into its programming, one of the first business schools to do so. In the 1970s, Kellogg again changed the face of graduate management education when it introduced the teamwork concept into its curriculum. Both the Kellogg executive education and teamwork models have been duplicated by business schools worldwide.

In 2002, BusinessWeek magazine ranked the Kellogg School the No. 1 graduate school of business in the United States, an

honor it has achieved four times since the biennial survey began in 1995. In the fall of 2003, for the second consecutive year, Kellogg was named the top MBA program in the world by The Economist Intelligence Unit, a division of The Economist Group. For more information, please visit: www.kellogg.northwestern.edu.