



Oregon Department of Administrative Services

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News Release

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Computerworld honors Oregon's State Data Center

Salem, Oregon—The Computerworld Honors Program has honored the State Data Center for its use of technology to benefit society, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services announced today.

At the end of last year, the State Data Center (SDC) announced it has completed a multi-year network consolidation of 11 separate agency data centers into a single data center to save time, money and energy, as well as reduce carbon emissions. The effort was the most far-reaching technology initiatives undertaken by Oregon or any other state.

International recognition of that accomplishment came during the 20th Annual Laureates Medal Ceremony & Gala Awards in Washington, DC, on Monday. For two decades, Computerworld has given formal recognition to those individuals and organizations who have used information technology to benefit society.

“Oregon is a leader in green initiatives in state governments, which this honor illustrates,” said Scott Harra, director of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). “The consolidation of information technology services into the State Data Center shows how Oregon is transforming the way government organizations collaborate and communicate.”

Harra stressed, however, that much work still remains for the State Data Center in helping its users accomplish their missions economically and effectively.

“We do not assume that we’ve solved all the issues associated with an effort this ambitious and far-reaching,” Harra said. “We will continue to work toward answering the demands of the state agencies, local governments and private citizens who rely on the State Date Center for service.”

The State Data Center (SDC) provides IT infrastructure services to agencies, boards and commissions who employ more than 45,000 employees. State managers expect the consolidation effort to reduce power consumption by 30 percent, with an additional 25-percent reduction upon completion of server consolidation. This accomplishment will reduce the state’s carbon footprint and enhance measurement of power costs to allow future improvement.

The new SDC provides a “shared-information technology infrastructure” that serves thousands of state and local government programs and businesses, representing millions of citizens.

“We’re seeing major benefits,” said State Representative Chuck Riley, Chair of the Committee on Government Accountability and Information Technology in the Oregon House of Representatives. “The first is cost containment, which is critical when you’re dealing with other people’s money—the taxpayers’. Second is security, which has become more important, especially as it relates to citizens’ privacy. And third is operational efficiency. This project not only saves money, but makes more forward-looking projects possible.”

The SDC’s consolidation is part of the state’s six-year plan to remodel IT services. The plan follows the federal government’s 1993 consolidation standards, which several other states have embraced.

Each year, the Computerworld Honors Program recognizes organizations in various sectors for their ongoing efforts to use technology to benefit society, explained Ron Milton, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Computerworld Information Technology Awards Foundation and Executive Vice President of Computerworld. “We are proud to provide a platform to publicly acknowledge these contributions,” Milton said.

Computerworld Honors Program 2008

The Computerworld Honors Program unites chairmen and CEOs of the world’s foremost information technology companies to recognize outstanding achievements in technology each year. The technology achievements honored by this program are preserved and protected in national archives, and in over 350 universities, museums, and research institutions throughout the world.

Each year, members of the Chairmen’s Committee, a group of 100 chairmen and CEOs of global technology companies, nominate individuals and organizations around the world, whose visionary applications of information technology promote social and economic progress.

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