



GREATER COLUMBIA  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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## ***2008 PALMETTO PILLAR TECHNOLOGY AWARD WINNERS***

*Columbia SC-Winners for the 2008 Palmetto Pillar Technology Awards were presented Thursday, August 14, 2008 at a banquet at the Embassy Suites Hotel.*

*The 2008 awards winners are:*

### ***Individual Achievement Award- Sponsored by BlueCross BlueShield of SC***

The Individual Achievement Award honors an individual who exhibits a commitment to the advancement of technology in the Riverbanks Region through his/her technology-oriented contributions. Such contributions may be business, civic and/or educational in nature and must benefit the Riverbanks Region.

### **Tom Ledbetter – Midlands Technical College: 2008 WINNER!**

A graduate of the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, Mr. Ledbetter is an active proponent of local community activities, entrepreneurial development, and larger-scale economic development efforts across the State of South Carolina. He is a Certified Economic Developer in South Carolina, and is certified as a Facilitator/Administrator for the FastTrac® series of entrepreneurial training courses. Tom is an active and committed member of the knowledge economy team in the midlands and serves in multiple disciplines to facilitate Columbia and South Carolina's dynamic progress in educational and economic development.

J. Thomas (Tom) Ledbetter, Jr. is a management professional with thirty-five years experience in the rapidly changing advanced manufacturing/technology development sector. His experience includes line, staff, and executive management responsibilities across a broad spectrum of organizational disciplines. In 2003, Tom joined Midlands Technical College in Columbia, most recently being named Executive Director of the Enterprise Campus.

### ***Small Enterprise Award -Sponsored by EngenuitySC***

The Small Enterprise Award Recognizes a small business entity, defined as an organization with fewer than 50 full-time employees or less than \$20 million in revenue, for the innovative application or development of a technology-based product, process or service.

## **DigitalDerm. Inc.: 2008 WINNER!**

Melanoma cancer rates continue to rise nationally and globally. A deadly disease characterized by subtle skin changes, melanoma is highly curable if treated early. DigitalDerm's MoleMapCD incorporates high resolution baseline cutaneous images with speed optimized viewing capabilities allowing for follow-up comparison of the patient's skin. The technology and service offer both the patient and physician the tool to detect these key early skin changes, thereby increasing the patient's chances for a complete cure.

### ***Technology in Industry Award -Sponsored by City of Columbia: Office of Economic Development***

The Technology in Industry Award recognizes a company or organization for the application or development of innovative technology-based projects and programs which impact industry as a commercial venture or improve work process by increasing sales and/or unit volume.

## **TIE – Colonial Life & Dennis Corporation: 2008 WINNERS!**

**Colonial Life's** Harmony® Enrollment System Whichever option best fits a business's needs, the web-based technology that powers all Colonial Life enrollments is its award-winning<sup>2</sup> and simple-to-use Harmony® system, which features online and offline capabilities. Colonial Life developed the Harmony system to provide:

- Streamlined enrollments in which employees can enroll in all their benefits – core and voluntary.
- Consistent communications. A company's benefits program is communicated consistently to all employees, regardless of location or enrollment option.
- Daily enrollment reporting. The reporting tool allows Colonial Life to provide businesses with data on who's enrolling and who isn't, as well as details on elections being made each day during the enrollment.
- Flexible options for custom data feeds.
- New hire support.

Harmony was built from the ground up using the latest technologies available and was one of the earliest large scale adoptions of the Microsoft .NET development environment. Colonial Life has consistently demonstrated a forward-looking approach to technology. It continues to use new technologies, such as WPF, that helps the company develop flexible, scalable and maintainable systems that make it easier for customers and partners to do business with it. Harmony uses safeguards to keep information about employees and their elections protected, provides immediate notification if employees are eligible for the products they're applying for and supplies accurate payroll-deduction information after the enrollment. Colonial Life's customized enrollment options and Harmony enrollment system, combined with benefits counseling and personal insurance products, help employees understand and appreciate what their employer does for them while taking the burden of enrollment off of the employer's shoulders. 1 Watson Wyatt Worldwide, "The Shifting Requirements of Benefits Enrollment," 2007 2 2006 Benefits Selling Readers' Choice Award

**Dennis Corporation** is a South Carolina licensed engineering, surveying and construction management firm specializing in a wide range of projects. Dennis Corporation employs seventy professionals whose specific fields of expertise include civil infrastructure, construction management, construction services, expert witness, intelligent transportation systems, program management, special projects, surveying, traffic engineering and transportation engineering. Dennis Corporation operates as a South Carolina Corporation Chapter C. Dennis Corporation employs highly trained and experienced personnel. Dennis

Corporation's staff utilizes the latest equipment and software for design, survey, materials testing and construction management. The Construction Services Division has all of the necessary SCDOT, SCDHEC, OSF and OSE certifications and equipment to perform field inspections and testing. The surveying division has advanced Trimble RTK/PP GPS and robotic Total Station equipment for preconstruction survey and construction stakeout.

***Technology in Education Award -Sponsored by Comfort Services***

The technology in education award recognizes a company or organization for the application or development of innovative, technology-based projects and programs that impact education in the Riverbanks Region.

**USC – Technology Support and Management Program: 2008 WINNER!**

The Technology Support and Training Management Program at the University of South Carolina prepares students in the areas of database technology, networking, technical support, training, project management, and web development. This four-year degree program includes a foundation of business courses, including accounting, business communications, management, and business law. All students in the program must complete an information technology internship of at least 300 hours. The program is housed in the College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management. In several classes in the program, students work on projects for nonprofits and small businesses in Columbia and across South Carolina.

***Technology in Government Award -Sponsored by Willoughby & Hoefler***

The Technology in Government Award recognizes a company or organization for the application or development of innovative technology-based projects and programs that impact government and related operations in the Riverbanks Region.

**SC.gov: 2008 WINNER!**

SC.gov is the official web site of the state of South Carolina. SC.gov is offered through a private/public partnership between the State of South and South Carolina Interactive. SC.gov is an innovative approach to providing access to government information and services electronically. For citizens and businesses, this means faster access to information and services. For government, the use of South Carolina Interactive's business model allows services to be made available online without the use of appropriated funds or tax dollars.

***Palmetto Pillar Award for Overall Greatness Award -Sponsored by Time Warner Cable***

The Palmetto Pillar Award for Overall Greatness is open to all nominees and is awarded to the outfit, individual, or entity that shows overall stellar improvement, technology utilization, and achievement.

**EngenuitySC: 2008 WINNER!**

EngenuitySC is an active public/private sector partnership focused on nurturing the growth of a knowledge-based economy in the Columbia, SC region. Comprised of business and industry leaders, along with representatives from local government and academia, EngenuitySC strives to create a fertile business climate that encourages entrepreneurship

and the commercialization of ideas and technology, harnesses the research breakthroughs of higher education institutions, establishes public policy that is sensitive to the unique needs of knowledge-based companies, and promotes access to start-up investment capital and talent.

EngenuitySC is extremely passionate about the Columbia, S.C. region becoming a leader in the knowledge economy. With a progressive and visionary local government, a committed and energetic business community, an ideal geographic location, a vibrant social environment and research-focused higher education institutions led by the University of South Carolina, the Columbia region is uniquely positioned to provide a home for innovation, as well as a home for those who create it. Our success in seizing this opportunity will result in immeasurable benefits for the citizens of Columbia and the region.

Columbia's Information Technology Council (ITC) was formed in 2000 by the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce to serve the greater Columbia Region. The ITC reaches out to, acknowledges and embraces all who are involved in the IT community. The ITC programs are designed to create awareness, provide networking opportunities and to recognize achievement of those in the IT community.

*The Chamber and the Information Technology Council would like to congratulate all the finalists and winners of the 2008 Palmetto Pillar Technology Awards and to thank the sponsors:*

***Presenting sponsor: AT&T***

***Platinum sponsors: Carolina First DP Professionals, SC Technology Alliance, Richland County Government and Zero Gravity Project!***