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SEAL OF THE STATE
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Press Release

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Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Announces Nominations for Apprentice Awards

(Juneau, AK) – The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development is announcing nominations for 2008 Apprentice Awards recognizing outstanding achievements toward building a skilled Alaska workforce through registered apprenticeship.

Registered apprenticeship is a national training system that combines paid learning on-the-job and related technical theoretical instruction in a skilled occupation enabling employers to develop and apply industry standards to training that can increase productivity and improve the quality of the workforce.

The department's awards will recognize the following:

Apprentice of the Year

Graduate Apprentice of the Year

Sponsor of the Year

Employer of the Year

Instructor of the Year

Innovation of the Year

"Not only has the nation benefited for seventy years from the Registered Apprenticeship Program, Alaska's employers and workforce have enjoyed a model of training that has brought our state highly skilled, trained and safe workers," said Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Click Bishop. "I know the tremendous value of apprenticeship to prepare Alaskans for the future including the jobs that will be needed for construction of an Alaska gas pipeline."

Applications are available for download at www.jobs.alaska.gov/apprentice/08apps.html.

The deadline for receipt of applications is February 29, 2008. Applications will be reviewed by a committee of peers and chosen by Commissioner Bishop. Announcement of a winner and two runner-ups in each category will be made on April 15, 2008.

A noon time recognition ceremony will be held April 29, 2008 in Anchorage at the Millennium Hotel during the Building Alaska's Future Apprenticeship Conference to honor the employers and individuals selected as leaders in apprenticeship throughout Alaska.

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