

Century Businesses Honored

An elite group of Iowa businesses have been a significant economic force in the state for more than 100 years. Their long-standing service is honored annually by the Iowa Department of Economic Development, in partnership with the Iowa Association of Business and Industry.

The 2003 Century Business of Iowa Recognition Ceremony was held December 8th at the historic Hotel Fort Des Moines. One hundred and fifty businesses from across the state were recognized for continuous contributions. About 300 people representing over half of the century businesses attended the recognition ceremony this year.

In congratulating the honorees, Lt. Governor Sally Pederson said, "Iowa's century businesses contribute billions of dollars to our state and national economies and employ thousands of people. Their stories are compelling, not only in their economic significance, but also in describing the innovation and tenacity that sustained them over the past hundred years."

The Century Business of Iowa Recognition was created by the Iowa Department of Economic Development in 2003 to recognize the importance of long-term businesses to the Iowa economy.

Any business that began operation in or before 1903 was encouraged to self-nominate or have its local community provide information about its history and operations. In the past two years, 332 businesses—located in 69 of Iowa's 99 coun-



Jerry Parkin of Deere and Company receives a Century Business Award from Lt. Governor Sally Pederson.

ties—have been identified as Century Businesses.

A list of the 2003 Century Business of Iowa inductees is posted on the Internet at: http://www.iowawebservice.com/CenturyBusiness/century_business_club.asp

A Century of Success

When Lisle Corporation began business in 1903, its first product was a well borer that was horse-drawn and horse-powered.

One hundred years later, the products manufactured by family owned Lisle have changed dramatically, moving into the automotive and into the healthcare arena.

Today, Lisle is known around the globe as one of the top manufacturers of automotive tools and equipment for profes-

sional and do-it-yourself mechanics.

According to President John Lisle, part of the fourth generation of Lisles to run the company, "We make specialized tools that help mechanics work more productively."

Lisle's product line that includes more than 400 different tools—95 percent which are produced by its 270-employees in Clarinda.

While it produces tools sold under the

Lisle brand, the company also makes private-label products for Snap-On, Matco, Sears and Car Quest.

Lisle is also the maker of the well-known Jeepers Creeper—a platform with wheels that mechanics use to slide under cars. The patented Jeepers Creeper is an ergonomically formed plastic platform designed to support a mechanic's lower back.

When asked how a company survives

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Iowa moves to the front in Ethanol

Iowa has more ethanol capacity in production or under construction than any other state. Twelve ethanol plants are in operation and five other plants are under construction. More than half of the plants are farmer-owned.

IOWA ETHANOL INDUSTRY

		Feedstock	Capacity (million gallons)	
			Current	Planned
Archer Daniels Midland	Cedar Rapids	Corn		
Archer Daniels Midland	Clinton	Corn		
Big River Resources, LLC* ^	West Burlington	Corn		40
Cargill, Inc.	Eddyville	Corn	35	
Golden Grain Energy, LLC* ^	Mason City	Corn		40
Grain Processing Corp.	Muscatine	Corn	10	
Iowa Ethanol, LLC* ^	Hanlontown	Corn		45
Little Sioux Corn Processors, LP*	Marcus	Corn	40	
Manildra Energy Corp.	Hamburg	Corn/milo/ wheat starch	8	
Midwest Grain Processors*	Lakota	Corn	45	
Midwest Renewables	Iowa Falls	Corn		40
Otter Creek Ethanol, LLC* ^	Ashton	Corn		45
Permeate Refining	Hopkinton	Sugars & starches	1.5	
Pine Lake Corn Processors, LLC* ^	Steamboat Rock	Corn		20
Quad-County Corn Processors*	Galva	Corn	18	
78th Street Ethanol, LLC"	Blairstown	Corn	5.5	
Siouxland Energy & Livestock Coop*	Sioux Center	Corn	18	
Tall Corn Ethanol, LLC*	Coon Rapids	Corn	45	

*Farmer owned

^ Under construction

Source: Renewable Fuels Association, Iowa Dept. of Economic Development



Construction is well under way on the \$55 million ethanol plant of Big River Resources near West Burlington. The operation will employ 32 people and purchase 15 million bushels of corn annually.

Standard Golf making products from recycled materials

A Cedar Falls business—Standard Golf Company—has been supplying golf courses across the globe with a full line of golf course accessories for more than 75 years.

In this time, the company has grown to become the world's leading producer of golf course accessories and its products are sold by more than 250 distributors on six continents.

Standard has recently added a line of environmentally friendly products to its offerings.

"We have three new products made from 100 percent recycled rubber," says John Kelly, Standard Golf marketing manager. "These include fareway and tee distance markers, cup covers and hole reducers.

"We also have a rope and chain stake, and hazard and environmental warning stakes made from 100 percent recycled plastic."

Help to bring these products to market came from the Materials Testing Service (MTS), a joint program of the University of Northern Iowa and the Iowa Department of Economic Development's Recycle Iowa office.

"MTS provided us with tensile testing, strength testing and UV testing on our products made from recycled materials," says Scott Hottle, Standard Golf plant engineer.

"Products with recycled materials must be as good as traditional products and testing through MTS gives us the data we need."

Through MTS, Iowa companies that are replacing mainstream materials with new and recycled composites have access to the latest in materials testing to successfully reuse recycled materials in new products.

"We will continue to add environmentally friendly products to our offerings because it's good for the environment, and good for our business," says Kelly.

New ISU soybean for healthier foods

New soybean varieties developed at Iowa State University hold promise for food manufacturers scrambling to remove unhealthy trans fats from their products.

The new soybeans produce oil that doesn't need to be hydrogenated.

The oil passed critical laboratory tests for frying and flavor stability last year, and is being made available to many major food companies for evaluation in various products.

The Food and Drug Administration has given food manufacturers until 2006 to include trans fat information on package labels. Trans fats may raise blood cholesterol levels and contribute to heart disease.

Most trans fats in the nation's food supply are created in the hydrogenation process, which is used to extend shelf life and stabilize flavor in countless baked, fried and processed foods, including chips, snack crackers, cookies, candies and salad dressings.

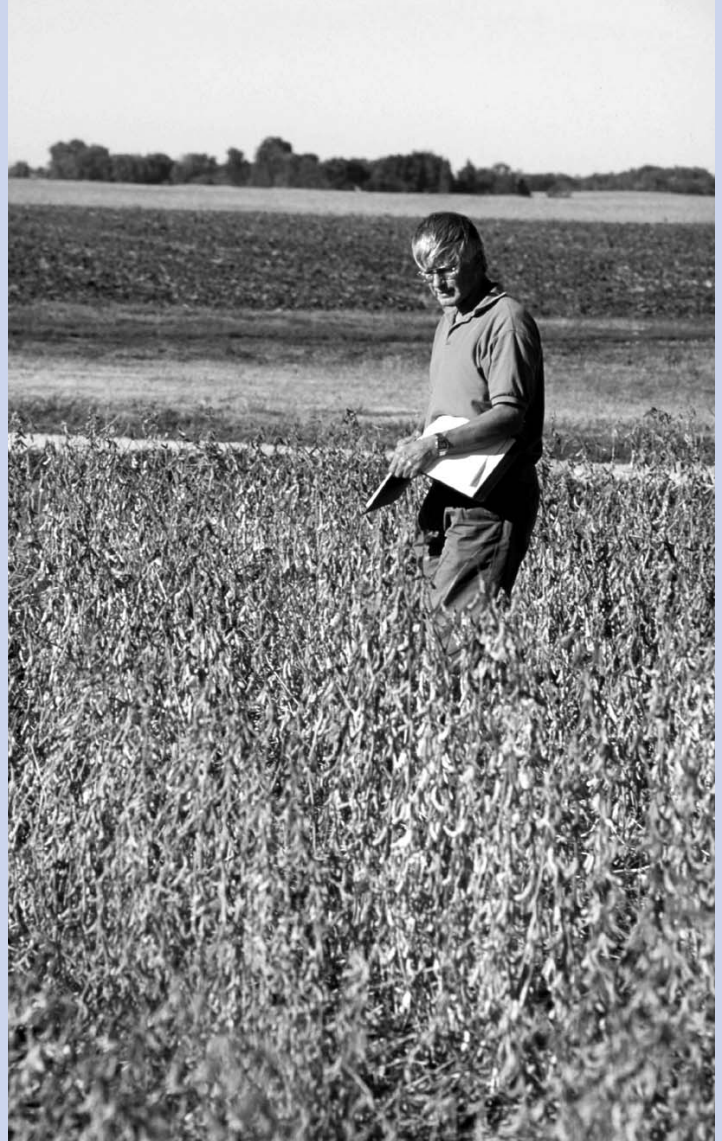
Manufacturers hydrogenate soybean oil to reduce its content of unsaturated fatty acids, particularly linolenic acid, the primary culprit responsible for causing food to become stale or rancid. Soybeans typically produce oil with seven percent linolenic acid. Iowa State's new soybean oil has only one percent linolenic acid.

The new soybean was developed through conventional breeding practices by soybean breeder Walter Fehr, a Curtiss Distinguished Professor in Agriculture, and Earl Hammond, emeritus University Professor.

The Iowa State University Research Foundation holds the patent for the one percent linolenic acid soybean.

More than 73 million acres of soybeans are grown in the United States. Soybeans supply 81 percent of the U.S. food industry's needs for edible oils and fats.

Fehr is working with Iowa grower groups, including the Innovative Growers and the Iowa Quality Agriculture Guild, that will plant the one percent linolenic acid soybean next spring.



ISU professor Walter Fehr led a 35-year effort to develop soybean oil that doesn't create unhealthy trans fats during food manufacturing.

New use for soy oil as wood-preservative

The Ag-Based Industrial Lubricants (ABIL) Research Program at the University of Northern Iowa has been granted a patent for a soybean-based wood preservative concept.

"Simply put, the idea is to actively oxidize soy oil and then force it into wood products," explained ABIL Director Lou Honary.

"The oil fills the wood pores and plasticizes in the wood, thus not allowing water to get in and cause rotting."

"When combined with preservatives, it could create a substitute for creosote and other controversial wood preservatives used in utility poles, railroad ties and on home decking and playground equipment," Honary said.

ABIL has a cooperative field project with an international forest products company to test the concept and determine the protection properties in various geographic climates and conditions across the country.

ABIL is recognized nationally as a leader in the development and commercialization of soybean-based industrial lubricants.

Calendar



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Tax Credit for New Jobs

The New Jobs Tax Credit for Iowa companies expanding the workforce by more than 10 percent while using a community college training program continues to increase.

The New Jobs Tax Credit is up to \$1,182 per new job or 6% of the taxable wage base for 2004. Expanding companies can determine when to use the credit because it can be carried forward up to 10 years.

	New Jobs Tax Credit	Taxable Wage Base
2004	\$1,182	\$19,700
2003	\$1,152	\$19,200
2002	\$1,116	\$18,600

For more information on training programs, contact the Iowa Department of Economic Development, 1-800-245-IOWA.

A Century of Success

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and thrives during a century that's included two World Wars, a depression, numerous recessions and thousands of fierce global competitors, Lisle was quick with a response.

"Much of the credit we've been able to achieve is due to our employees, past and present.

"The people of southwest Iowa are smart, hard working and committed to producing a quality product," says Lisle.

Moving production to Iowa

UFP Technologies, Inc., a manufacturer of packaging and specialty products, has announced plans to close its molded fiber plant in California and consolidate operations into its Clinton, Iowa, facility.

The move is designed to create a larger, more efficient and centrally located manufacturing plant that will better serve customers needs at substantially lower costs.

"The market for our molded fiber parts has left the West Coast, and we have responded accordingly," said R. Jeffrey Bailly, President & CEO.

"Because Iowa is much closer to our market for these products, and because great efficiencies can be achieved by combining two plants into one, we determined we could best meet market needs with one, highly efficient factory."

"Being a low cost producer is crucial in today's environment," said Bailly. "This move helps us achieve this objective, and maintain the infrastructure we need to make consistent, high-quality parts."

UFP Technologies is an innovative designer and manufacturer of a broad range of high performance cushion foam and molded fiber packaging products, and specialty foam and plastic products for industrial and consumer markets.