

## **U.S. Chamber BCLC Calls On America's Communities to Apply for National Sustainability Honor**

*Sound Community Models of Economic and Environmental Innovation Sought by BCLC and Siemens*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—The U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Business Civic Leadership Center (BCLC) is calling for nominations for the 2012 *Siemens Sustainable Community Awards*. Now in its fifth year, the program recognizes local governments, chambers of commerce, and other local organizations for the tremendous steps they've taken to improve quality of life and enhance their ability to sustain a successful community for generations to come.

“Sustainability, simply put, is figuring out ways to make tomorrow better than today – economically, environmentally, and socially,” said Stephen Jordan, founder and executive director of the Chamber BCLC. “The Siemens Sustainable Community Awards are designed to recognize innovators in this field and raise awareness about new strategies for community and economic development, which, in these challenging times, are badly needed.”

The *Siemens Sustainable Community Awards* recognize communities in the categories of small, midsize, and large, based on population. Nominations will be accepted until January 13, 2012. Community-based coalitions, chambers of commerce, community developers, and other local agencies are encouraged to complete the application process. The winning community in each category will receive \$20,000 worth of trees from Siemens Corporation.

To be eligible for the awards program, cities and municipalities must demonstrate several overarching characteristics of long-term sustainability planning from the environmental, economic and overarching perspectives. These requirements include a prolonged partnership with the business community, inclusion of multiple stakeholders, and demonstrable improvements to the environment, business sector, and quality of life. [Click here to see winners from last year's awards.](#)

“Sustainability is not only the cornerstone of Siemens values, but also something that communities should address in order to truly thrive,” said Alison Taylor, vice president, Sustainability, Siemens Corporation. “We are proud to sponsor this award and to recognize communities across the country that are taking proactive steps to become more sustainable.”

To apply, visit [BCLC's website](http://sustainablecommunity.uschamber.com) [http://sustainablecommunity.uschamber.com].

Siemens AG (NYSE: SI) is a global powerhouse in electronics and electrical engineering, and operates in the industry, energy and healthcare sectors. For more than 160 years, Siemens has built a reputation for leading-edge innovation and the quality of its products, services and solutions. With 405,000 employees in 190 countries, Siemens reported worldwide sales of \$102.9 billion in fiscal 2010. With its U.S. corporate headquarters in Washington, DC, Siemens in the USA reported sales of \$19.9 billion and employs more than 60,000 people throughout all 50 states and Puerto Rico. For more information on Siemens in the United States, visit [www.usa.siemens.com](http://www.usa.siemens.com).

BCLC is a 501(c)3 affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and is a resource and voice for businesses and their social and philanthropic interests. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing more than 3 million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region. Visit [www.uschamber.com/bclc](http://www.uschamber.com/bclc).

[sustainablecommunity.uschamber.com](http://sustainablecommunity.uschamber.com)

###

[bclc.chamberpost.com](http://bclc.chamberpost.com)