



For Immediate Release

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YBI, YCACIC and Regional Chamber Win Economic Development Award

The Youngstown Business Incubator (YBI), Youngstown Central Area Community Improvement Corporation (YCACIC) and Regional Chamber jointly received an award in the category of Fostering Entrepreneurship before a crowd of hundreds at Team Northeast Ohio's (NEO)/ *Inside Business* magazine's 2008 Economic Development Impact Awards ceremony in Independence on Wednesday.

The group was recognized for its efforts to develop and construct the recently dedicated Taft Technology Center, which is the global headquarters of Turning Technologies, a YBI portfolio company.

The YCACIC—managed by the Regional Chamber—and YBI worked together to build the 30,000 square-foot, \$6 million facility in downtown Youngstown.

"This award not only honors fostering entrepreneurship, it celebrates how economic development entities can collaborate and leverage their expertise to achieve great results," says the Regional Chamber's Interim Executive Director of Economic Development Walter Good.

Julie Michael Smith, chief development officer at the Youngstown Business Incubator, noted, "This collaboration is integral to creating a thriving, entrepreneurial environment in downtown Youngstown where innovation and new technology development can flourish."

The annual awards event recognizes organizations and companies that have made outstanding contributions in attracting, retaining and expanding businesses in northeast Ohio. Team NEO is a private sector-led, 16-county regional economic development organization.

The Regional Chamber was also a finalist in the New Job Creation category for economic development work that led to InfoCision's starting construction on two new Mahoning Valley call centers in 2007. These facilities will create 450 new jobs and retain more than 700 positions.

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