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Meghan Jensen (414) 988-8754

mjensen@thewatercouncil.com



GLOBAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP HONOR AWARDED TO THE WATER COUNCIL

MILWAUKEE, WI, May 12, 2016 – The Water Council was named the winner of CoreNet Global’s 2016 *Economic Development Leadership* award for ‘Water Technology Cluster Leadership.’ CoreNet Global is a non-profit association, headquartered in Atlanta, GA, that represents 10,000 executives in 50 countries with strategic responsibility for the real estate assets of large corporations.

CoreNet Global’s *Economic Development Leadership* award celebrates the successful implementation of innovative, economically promising projects in a community or region. The Water Council will receive the award for our ‘Water Technology Cluster Leadership’ on October 18 in Philadelphia, PA during CoreNet’s Global Summit – Americas.

“With all of the important and impactful economic development projects occurring across the world it is truly an honor to be singled out as a global leader in successful cluster development,” said Rich Meeusen, co-chair of The Water Council and president/CEO/chairman of Badger Meter. “CoreNet is a significant organization in the world of corporate real estate with a global audience and reach, which will undoubtedly create even more interest in Milwaukee’s Water Technology Cluster.”

The Water Council has worked extensively with the public and private sectors to create a national model for cluster development around water technology since 2009. In 2015, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC), with the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee and The Water Council, released an economic impact analysis of the Water Technology District in Milwaukee that found more than \$211.6 million in investments by both the public and private sectors have occurred from 2010 through 2014.

“The Water Council has been built around a steadfast commitment to collaboration between industry and academia as well as all levels of government including federal, state and local,” said Dean Amhaus, president and CEO of The Water Council. “A special thank you to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation for submitting our nomination and for being a remarkable public partner as together we have embarked on this journey of growing our water technology cluster.”

The Water Council is now automatically entered into the competition for CoreNet’s 2016 *H. Bruce Russell Global Innovator (GIA)* award. Since 2000, this award has honored those individuals and organizations whose work, ideas and best practices have emerged as “game changers” that elevate the practice of corporate real estate.

About The Water Council

The Water Council was established in 2009 by Milwaukee-area businesses, education and government leaders. The nonprofit organization, consisting of more than 180 members, links together global water technology companies, innovative water entrepreneurs, acclaimed academic research programs and, most importantly, some of the nation's brightest and most energetic water professionals. The Water Council is capturing the attention of the world and transforming the Milwaukee region into a World Water Hub for freshwater research, economic development and education. Statewide, the water technology industry has more than 200 companies in Wisconsin, over 20 academic partners with water-based curriculum, and water-technology exports growing by 7.4 percent in 2014.

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