SUGGESTED ITEMS TO CONSIDER WHEN YOU WRITE YOUR NOMINATION FOR THE MINNESOTA/DAKOTAS CHAPTER OF THE ESOP ASSOCIATION

COMPANY OF THE YEAR

(NOTE: These suggestions are being provided as “starting points.” Obviously, not all of the items listed below will apply to every company. Please do not think that you have to meet all of these criteria in order to submit a nomination for this award.)

COMPANY HISTORY:
1. Year company was established and by whom.
2. What type of products/services does your company make/offer?
3. Is your company an S Corp or a C Corp ESOP?
4. Does your company have a Mission Statement? If so, what is it?
5. When was your ESOP created?
6. Why was your ESOP created?
7. What percentage of the company is owned by the ESOP?
8. How many employees participate in the ESOP?

COMPANY INFORMATION RELATING TO ESOP:
1. What type of ESOP committee(s), if any, does your company have?
   - What are the roles and responsibilities of your committee(s)?
   - How many members serve on each committee?
   - Are committee members elected or appointed?
   - How long do committee members serve on the committee?
   - How often does/do your committee(s) meet?
   - Does the committee have an “event” budget?
   - What types of events are organized for employee owners?
2. Does your company provide a non-management employee with a seat on its Board of Directors?
3. Does your company have a non-management employee serve as an ESOP Trustee?
4. Does your company have pass-through voting for Board of Directors?
5. Does the ESOP provide for in-service distributions other than diversification?
6. Has your company ever submitted a nomination for an AACE Award? If so, when and in what category(ies)?
7. Has your company ever won an AACE or been a Runner-up for an AACE Award? If so, when and in what category(ies)?
8. Has your company ever submitted a poster for the Employee Ownership Month Poster Contest? If so, when?
9. Has your company ever hosted a company-to-company event on behalf of the Minnesota/Dakotas Chapter? If so, when?
10. Does your company participate in government relations activities, i.e., lobbying/contacting elected officials on ESOP issues?
11. Has your company ever invited its local Congressman/woman to visit your company? If so, when?
12. Has your company ever submitted an Employee Owner of the Year nomination? If so, when?
13. Does your company have a website that includes a section on employee ownership?
14. Do your company shirts, pens, mugs, etc. say “employee owned” or have the ESOP logo on them?
15. Has your company ever received media recognition as a great place to work?
16. Has your company ever served as a Minnesota/Dakotas Chapter officer or on one of the chapter committees? If so, who, what position(s) did he/she hold, and when?
17. Does your company regularly send representatives to chapter meetings/events?
18. Does your company regularly send representatives to national ESOP meetings/conferences/events?
19. Does your company contribute to The ESOP Association's PAC?
20. Does your company contribute to the Employee Ownership Foundation?