



Orion president honored with a commendation from Wisconsin Gov. Doyle

Energy efficiency company recognized for ‘improving our quality of life’

MANITOWOC, Wis. — Feb. 26, 2009 — Neal Verfuert, president and CEO of Orion Energy Systems Inc. (Nasdaq: OESX), was honored Thursday with a commendation from Gov. Jim Doyle for Verfuert’s steadfast commitment to providing high-quality jobs and developing energy saving products.

Department of Workforce Development Secretary Roberta Gassman presented Verfuert with the award, thanking him for his dedication to strong workmanship.



Pictured from left to right: Orion President and CEO Neal Verfuert, Wisconsin State Representative –25th Assembly District Bob Ziegelbauer, Department of Workforce Development Secretary Roberta Gassman, City of Manitowoc Mayor Kevin Crawford, Wisconsin State Representative – 2nd Assembly District Ted Zigmunt.

“Orion is an outstanding company,” Gassman said at Orion’s Manitowoc manufacturing facility. “We, in state government, have truly appreciated being a partner with Neal and all of you to help Orion grow over the years. It’s in a partnership together with you that we can keep Wisconsin strong and healthy, and on the competitive edge long into the future — particularly through energy efficiency.”

The state of Wisconsin has provided Orion with community development tax credits, block grants and other funds to help train Orion employees through Lakeshore Technical College, in Cleveland, Wis. Verfuert said the relationship between Orion and the state is a clear “example of a true partnership.”

Orion Energy Systems is a leading power technology enterprise that designs, manufactures and implements energy management systems, consisting primarily of high-

performance energy efficient lighting systems for commercial and industrial customers without compromising their quantity or quality of light.

The company, which started in 1996, has grown from approximately 10 employees to about 280, Verfuertth said. In the past three weeks alone, Orion has added approximately 15 new jobs.

“We are doing our part to create new jobs in Wisconsin and help our economy grow,” Verfuertth said. “We were creating green jobs before it was even fashionable to create green jobs.”

Gassman painted a grim picture of the state and national economies, saying 46 states have budget deficits, including a deficit of about \$5.8 billion in Wisconsin, but remained optimistic about an economic recovery based on what Orion is creating — energy savings without compromise.

“You can be such a huge help in turning around the economy,” Gassman told the employees of Orion. “A key part of helping us come out of these hard times is businesses like Orion.

“You are a part of something very big and something very important. There are very important days ahead of us to help our economy recover.”

The commendation presented to Verfuertth from Gassman addresses Orion’s success, citing the companies numerous awards including the recently won Platts Global Energy Award, which recognized the single most innovative and sustainable green technology in the world of 2008.

The commendation also applauds Orion’s achievements in capturing business from 114 of the Fortune 500 companies, and “its substantial contributions in developing energy saving products and improving our quality of life.”

Verfuertth said he was “honored and privileged to be recognized by the secretary and the governor of Wisconsin.”

Orion has deployed its energy management systems in 4,387 facilities across North America. Since 2001, Orion technology has displaced more than 423 megawatts, saving customers more than \$514 million and reducing indirect carbon dioxide emissions by 4.3 million tons. Orion’s technology was recently internationally recognized with a Platts Global Energy Award for the single most innovative and sustainable green technology of 2008.

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services for commercial and industrial customers without compromising their quantity or quality of light. For more information, visit www.oesx.com.

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