

A Message from the Governor

Indiana's Companies to Watch are giving all of us something to cheer about. Besides generating new jobs for our state, these 50 entrepreneurial second-stage companies are engaged in another critically important mission: economic diversification.

From creating lifesaving drugs to crafting innovative new ways to educate our children to boosting groundbreaking green technologies, Indiana's Companies to Watch are achieving success in a variety of important industries. In the process, these companies are also producing wealth, opportunity and new jobs in communities all across our state.

This multifaceted approach to venture creation is critical to Indiana's economic growth. Hoosier communities that nurture a broad range of businesses are better positioned to withstand market downturns that occur in different industries.

As a state, Indiana is working hard to improve its business environment. We've capped state property taxes, eliminated inventory taxes and kept our workers' compensation costs low. We've created a research and development tax credit to support business research and development, established venture capital tax credits to encourage investment in Indiana's technology companies and are improving our state's transportation infrastructure and high-speed fiber optic networks for the demands of 21st century businesses.

These steps support the role that Indiana's Companies to Watch play in transforming Indiana's economy.

Because they have moved past the start-up phase, second-stage entrepreneurs can focus on growth issues rather than survival. Second-stagers are more nimble and can react quickly to changing markets. The new products, services and technologies they create are particularly important in today's knowledge-based global economy, where the ability to innovate is directly linked with prosperity in local, state and regional communities.

Please join me in congratulating the 2009 class of Indiana Companies to Watch. These entrepreneurial companies are building on Indiana's proud heritage of innovation and invention while unleashing new opportunities for our state.

Sincerely,



Mitch Daniels
Governor, State of Indiana

