



Contact: Julie Gudlewski  
Telephone: 859-514-9159  
Email: [jgudlewski@amrms.com](mailto:jgudlewski@amrms.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 30, 2010

### **NASPO Recognizes Innovation in State Government Procurement**

*George Cronin Awards for Procurement Excellence recognizes Minnesota/Wisconsin, Georgia and Ohio*

The National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) honored three innovative state procurement programs with the George Cronin Award for Procurement Excellence at its Annual Conference on August 24, 2010 in Washington, D.C. Submissions were judged against criteria including innovation, transferability, service improvement, uniqueness and originality, and demonstrable cost-reduction.

Minnesota and Wisconsin received the 2010 Gold Cronin Award for Procurement Excellence for its Partnership Initiative. The bi-state initiative, recently highlighted in *Governing* magazine, has identified efficiencies and savings for both states totaling \$6 million to date. Through a collaboration of resources, they have been able to protect essential services during tough economic times as a result of reducing redundancy and administrative costs.

The Silver 2010 Cronin Award for Procurement Excellence was presented to Georgia for its SUM (Spend Under Management) submission. Georgia combined its "Team Georgia Marketplace" and its Spend Management Analytics to gain a better understanding of spend management. Using Team Georgia Marketplace and Spend Management Analytics, the state comprehensively monitors state buyer activity, electronic sourcing events, contracts, purchase orders as well as contract administration documentation.

Ohio won the 2010 Bronze Award for its Local Print Consolidation Program. The Ohio Department of Administration Services developed an internal program offering a complete analysis of the state agency's current print equipment in order to save the state money, energy and space while providing an efficient document workflow process. As a result of the Program, Ohio identified \$181,960 in annual cost savings.

The George Cronin Award for Procurement Excellence is recognized as a premier achievement for innovative public procurement and pays homage to a founder and the first president of NASPO, George J. Cronin. Since 1985, the Cronin Awards have recognized ground-breaking state procurement programs and promoted the sharing of ideas between states. More information on the awards program can be found at [http://www.naspo.org/content.cfm/id/cronin\\_award](http://www.naspo.org/content.cfm/id/cronin_award).

The National Association of State Procurement Officials is a non-profit association dedicated to strengthening the procurement community through education, research, and communication. It is made up of the directors of the central purchasing offices in each of the 50 states, the District of

Columbia and the territories of the United States. NASPO is an organization through which the member purchasing officials provide leadership in professional public purchasing, improve the quality of purchasing and procurement, exchange information and cooperate to attain greater efficiency and economy. Please visit [www.naspo.org](http://www.naspo.org) for additional information.

-30-

For more information on NASPO and its recent initiatives, please contact Matt Grayson, NASPO Issues Coordinator at (859) 514-9195 or [mgrayson@amrms.com](mailto:mgrayson@amrms.com).

AMR Management Services, Inc. (AMR) provides NASPO with full management services. For more information about AMR visit [www.AMRms.com](http://www.AMRms.com).