

Business Honors for Aug. 24, 2008

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Glen Duncan has been recognized with the Professional Achievement Award of the Southern Public Relations Federation.

The award acknowledges Duncan's career as a geologist, journalist, entrepreneur, author, community leader and public relations practitioner.

Vector Electric and Controls has been awarded Associated Builders & Contractor's National Safety Excellence Award in the North American Industry Classification System's 238-specialty contractor category.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana received awards for all of its 13 entries in the 2008 Lantern Awards competition sponsored by the Southern Public Relations Federation.

Blue Cross received six Lantern Awards, for:

Annual report; organizational identity/logo design; signage (the extra-large Louisiana 2 step signs on the company's headquarters building); writing for public relations (for a white paper released on two-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina); Website development/Internet (for the Louisiana 2 Step Web sites).

The company received three Awards of Excellence, for:

Internal communication Program, short term (for an employee wellness contest); special public relations program, short term (for a walking challenge designed for the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry); and writing for public relations-opinion/editorial.

The four Certificates of Merit were for: Media/press kit, print; organizational identity/logo design (for the 2 Step 4 Kids program); public service program, long term (for the Louisiana 2 Step public education campaign); and Special events (for the second annual National Walk Lunch Day event).

Baton Rouge General has been named to HealthImaging and IT magazine's list of "Top 25 Most-Connected Healthcare Facilities" in the nation.

The list recognizes best practices in imaging and information technology.

HealthImaging cited the imaging and diagnostic techniques used at the hospital's Pennington Cancer Center.

Object 9 has earned a gold Vision Award for its work on the Baton Rouge Area Chamber's 2007 Annual Report.

The competition drew more than 3,000 entries representing 21 countries.

A marketing, public relations and creative services firm, Object 9 has offices in Baton Rouge and Atlanta, Ga.

The Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana has won three awards from the Governmental Research Association. The GRA is a national organization of individuals and groups who study and make recommendations on state and local policy issues.

The awards were:

- Most effective education, state-level winner, for "Questioning Candidates beyond the Platitudes."
- Most distinguished research, certificate of merit, for "Spending Federal Disaster Aid."
- Outstanding policy achievement, certificate of merit, for "PAR Research in Governmental Ethics and Transparency Yields Reforms."

Baton Rouge General's Pennington Cancer Center has earned a three-year approval with commendation from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. Approval is given to facilities that have committed to provide quality cancer care and undergo an evaluation process.

Six **ExxonMobil** scientists have been honored by the American Chemical Society for devising a catalyst to produce cleaner-burning diesel fuel.

Honored at the society's Heroes of Chemistry event were: Michael Kerby, Ernie Lewis, Stephen McCarthy, Sabato Miseo, Kenneth Lloyd Riley and Stuard Soled.

The ExxonMobil researchers developed the new catalyst in conjunction with Baton Rouge-based Albemarle Corp. to meet more-stringent air pollution regulations for diesel sulfur content. The team developed and commercialized the catalyst Nebula to enable refineries to produce cleaner-burning fuel.