



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Duluth Trading Company Wins Prominent Economic Development Award**

**Madison, WI** – Duluth Trading Company, based in based in Belleville, WI, won the Business Retention & Expansion Award at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Community and Economic Development Awards (CEDA) banquet, held September 12, 2018, at The Edgewater Hotel in Madison. The CEDA Awards program was established by the Wisconsin Economic Development Association (WEDA) to recognize businesses, projects, and organizations that are making significant contributions to Wisconsin's economy.

The Business Retention and Expansion award honors innovative economic development projects where communities have successfully mobilized to help retain and potentially expand the operations of an existing business critical to the economic vitality of the community. Duluth Trading Company received the award for its new Mount Horeb, WI corporate headquarters project.

"We are thrilled to be recognized for this community and economic development award. As Duluth Trading Company has grown, we quickly outgrew our facilities, and downtown Mount Horeb was a popular choice to relocate our headquarters," said Dave Homolka, Duluth Trading Co. Vice President of Human Resources. "The partnership between the village of Mount Horeb, our developer, and Duluth executives has helped us widen our Dane County footprint to offer more job opportunities beyond our Belleville facilities and provide employees a convenient headquarters with a hometown feel."

The \$39.5 million project was made possible by a strong partnership between Duluth Trading Company and the Village of Mount Horeb to keep the clothing and accessories company in Wisconsin, bring the new Duluth corporate headquarters to the heart of the village's downtown, and provide a catalyst to attract new businesses and jobs to Mount Horeb. Once completed, the new HQ building will house approximately 200 employees, with room to expand to 300 workers.

"WEDA is excited to partner with the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, Wisconsin Counties Association, and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to present the CEDA Awards and celebrate the dedicated efforts of business and organizations across the state to advance Wisconsin's economy," said WEDA Executive Director Brian Doudna.

Awards were given in the following six categories at the CEDA Awards banquet: Business Retention and Expansion; Economic Development Initiative; Economic Driver; Public-Private Partnership; Real Estate Development and Reuse; and Talent Attraction.

CEDA Award sponsors include the American Transmission Company; Alliant Energy; Bachmann Construction; Green Bay Packers; Insight Publications; J.H. Findorff & Son; Madison Gas & Electric; Wisconsin Public Service; and Xcel Energy.

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