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HUSTON PATTERSON NAMES DECATUR'S FIRST MID-ILLINOIS BANK & TRUST AS VENDOR OF THE YEAR

DECATUR, ILL. – Huston Patterson Corporation officials recently honored Decatur's First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust as its 2006 Vendor of the Year. The first annual award was presented during the HPx Academy Grand Opening in May.

“It's hard to express how important reliable suppliers are to our business,” noted Huston Patterson President/CEO Thomas W. Kowa during the event at company headquarters in Decatur. “In 1998, we went into survival mode. We were in trouble financially. First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust stepped to the plate when no one else would. They backed us and if they hadn't, we wouldn't be here today.”

First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust President John Hedges and Regional President Eric McRae accepted the award. “Recognition isn't all that common in our industry. It may sound corny, but this award really means something. It's a confirmation that we're doing our job right, but it's also a reason to try even harder,” says McRae.

Huston Patterson management nominated vendors based on five criteria: timeliness, service, reliability, cooperation and quality. Price was not included. Out of 350 Huston Patterson vendors, 15 were nominated for recognition, five were named finalists.

“The decision was very difficult,” says Kowa. “The personality of First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust matches ours. They are very responsive and focused on making clients happy.”

“It's easy to believe in Huston Patterson,” says McRae. “This company has fought back after a variety of challenges within a consolidating industry. You can really tell about character of an individual and that of a company by how they handle adversity.”

First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust was first chartered in 1865 and has grown into a \$981 million community-focused organization that provides financial services through a network of 28 banking centers in 20 Illinois communities. The Decatur facility concentrates on making business loans and providing excellent service.

As a world-class printing organization, Huston Patterson provides unparalleled value and performance through effective use of technology and craftsmanship by incorporating the

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