

2012

VICKI CLARKE

P R A I R I E

FAMILY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

A W A R D S

APPLICATION



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# Congratulations!

As the recipient of a local family business award in 2011, your family business is a finalist for the 2011 Vicki Clarke Prairie Family Business of the Year Awards!

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The Vicki Clarke **Prairie Family Business of the Year Award** is an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of family firms. The vast majority of businesses are family-owned, and their tremendous impact on our local and national economy cannot be overstated. The Clarke family of County Fair Foods in Mitchell, S.D. endowed the awards in 2011, in honor of Vicki Clarke. Winners will be selected based on the characteristics Vicki demonstrated in the family business and in the community.

The following is a comprehensive application that will be reviewed by a panel of judges as part of the selection process for this year's **Vicki Clarke Prairie Family Business of the Year Award** winners.

**PLEASE** take the time to complete this application. We have learned from several former applicants that this process was an extremely valuable experience! It is a chance to reflect on the many positive results that come from blending the family and business realms of life successfully, and to reaffirm your reasons for doing so. Indeed, it is a chance to highlight and to celebrate the accomplishments of generations.

We encourage the “historian” of the family to complete the application or make it a “group” effort. It can provide a wonderful perspective of the family's purpose and legacy to the succeeding generation of leadership. ...enjoy the process.

**DEADLINE:** Completed applications must be received by *January 9, 2012.*

**WINNERS** will be notified by *January 17, 2012.* The award will be presented at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Prairie Family Business Conference March 30, 2012 in Sioux Falls, SD. Winners will receive two complimentary award banquet tickets, and a complimentary one-year membership to the Prairie Family Business Association.



## VICKI CLARKE PRAIRIE FAMILY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2012 AWARD APPLICATION

### *Application Instructions*

1. Fill in the basic *Company Information* below.
2. Complete *Questionnaire Section* (pg 4)  
All questions must be answered. Use a separate page for each answer. Keep the length of each answer to no more than **150 words**.
3. Current Family Business Photo ( limit 1)
4. Send completed applications to  
**Beth Adamson, Director, Prairie Family Business Association**  
**University Center, 4801 North Career Ave., Suite 140, Sioux Falls, SD 57107**

### *Company Information*

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Number of Employees \_\_\_\_\_ Year Founded \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Owners \_\_\_\_\_

Principal Product or Service \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person Regarding This Award \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address \_\_\_\_\_

Company Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ Company Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

Company E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Company Website Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number of family members employed by the company, including those on the Board of Directors \_\_\_\_\_

Number of generations actively involved in the company at present \_\_\_\_\_

Number of generations involved since the company was founded \_\_\_\_\_

Generation which currently runs the company \_\_\_\_\_ Number of company's current locations \_\_\_\_\_



## VICKI CLARKE PRAIRIE FAMILY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2012 AWARD APPLICATION

### *Questionnaire*

**1. Give a brief description of your family business.**

Consider: Describe how the company started; history of the business from inception to present; adversities (fire, weather, change in technology, etc.) the family overcame to perpetuate the business.

**2. How has your family business successfully linked your family with your business?**

Consider: Describe how the family contributed its values, leadership, finances, and management to the business, and how the business strengthened the family. Does the family demonstrate a nurturing, caring spirit towards associates and employees and recognizes employees contributions.

**3. How many generations have been involved in the ownership and management of your family business?**

Consider: Show that there has been significant family ownership and management for at least two generations. If there are plans in place for the next generation, please summarize. Is the current generation committed and active in the company and striving to have the company pass to the next generation?

**4. Describe the impact your family business has had on the community and your industry.**

Consider: Leadership roles, volunteer service, and financial support

**5. Describe your company's growth in sales, employees, profits, number of locations, etc., since its founding.**

Consider: Maturity and stability of the business, what innovations or impact the various family members had on the direction of the business and the future of the company.