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## **Dakota Users Group Named ASCnet Chapter of the Year**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Oct. 19, 2009)—The Dakota Users Group of Applied Systems has been honored with the Applied Systems Client Network's (ASCnet) 2009 Chapter of the Year Award. ASCnet Chapters Committee Chair Dianna George presented the award here at the association's 24th annual Technology, Education & Networking Conference, or TENCon.

Chapter president and co-chair Melody Zimmerman of American Insurance Inc. of Dickinson, N.D., along with chapter vice president and co-chair Connie Bertram of Dawson Insurance Agency in Fargo, accepted the award on behalf of the Dakota Users Group.

The Chapter of the Year Award honors an ASCnet local affiliate that has shown outstanding leadership and provided its members with exceptional opportunities to increase their profitability and grow the value of their agencies through education programs and services.

"I have personally labeled the 2009 Chapter of the Year 'The Little Chapter That Could,'" said George as she presented the award. "They have excelled in identifying future leaders. I am always amazed at how a chapter with a small membership base continues to promote new leadership and deliver quality education each year."

Over the past year, the Dakota Users Group has successfully implemented a mentoring program for future leaders and has continued conducting member and non-member communications to survey constituents for new, improved ways to deliver programs at the local level.

"The leadership team of this chapter is very in sync with each other and knows the goings-on from a chapter administration and management perspective," said George.

This year, in addition to recognizing the Chapter of the Year, the Chapters Committee recognized and rewarded all chapters that submitted an application for the award with a free webinar they can use at a 2010 chapter meeting as a token of appreciation for all that the chapters do to extend educational opportunities to ASCnet members.

**About ASCnet:** Founded in 1985 and based in Altamonte Springs, Fla., the Applied Systems Client Network, Inc., (ASCnet) is an international association representing more than 80,000 insurance professionals in 11 countries and territories. The only authorized user group for Applied Systems software, ASCnet promotes successful technology and

business practices through communication, education and advocacy. For more information: [www.ascnet.org](http://www.ascnet.org).

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