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NASPO honors Illinois's innovative procurement practices

Lexington, Ky. — The National Association of State Procurement Officials honored six innovative state procurement programs at its Annual Meeting in Mystic, Connecticut, when it presented its annual Cronin Club awards. The awards are broken into two categories; Classic and Information Technology.

The State of Illinois, Department of Central Management Services, received the 2005 NASPO Cronin Information Technology Silver Award on August 30th for their Knowledge Management System. For most organizations, knowledge has become the most important asset. Central Management Services is conducting a progressive experiment in the public sector known as Knowledge Management. This system will capture and share best practices, not only in procurement, but in all areas of government. The results are already promising, especially in the procurement area where billions of dollars are spent. With a modest initial investment, Illinois hopes to launch a nationwide transformation in information sharing that will ensure taxpayers' dollars are maximized.

Since 1985, the Cronin Club Innovation Awards have recognized innovative state procurement programs and promoted the sharing of ideas between states. The Cronin Club is a committee of past presidents of the association and is named for the first NASPO President, George Cronin. More information on the awarded programs is available on the NASPO homepage at <http://www.naspo.org>.

The National Association of State Procurement Officials is a non-profit association dedicated to strengthening the procurement community through education, research, and communication. It is made up of the directors of the central purchasing offices in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the territories of the United States. NASPO is an organization through which the member purchasing officials provide leadership in professional public purchasing, improve the quality of purchasing and procurement, exchange information and cooperate to attain greater efficiency and economy.

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For more information on NASPO and its recent initiatives, please contact Rebecca Randall, NASPO Sr. Project Coordinator, at (859) 514-9159 or randall@amrms.com.

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