



# ***News Release***

## **HillSouth Wins Palmetto Workforce Partnership Award**

**For Immediate Release**

**April 18, 2007**

HillSouth of Florence was named the "Small Business Winner" at this year's Palmetto Workforce Partnership Awards Ceremony and Workshops, held April 18 at the Columbia Metropolitan Center.

Each year, businesses from around the state are honored for their contribution to the workforce, and one winner each is chosen in the small (up to 50 employees), medium (51-500) and large (over 500) business categories.

The Cal Ripken Experience, a baseball camp in Myrtle Beach, was the medium-sized business, and Kraft Foods of Newberry was the Large Business winner.

HillSouth is a true computer-age success story. This information technology consulting service, which started with founder and president Robby Hill and few high school buddies, has accumulated considerable talent and developed partnerships with respected industry leaders.

In 2006, HillSouth was awarded an Incumbent Worker Training Grant to invest in its existing workforce to upgrade skill sets with new technologies. One of many projects involves partnering with the Pee Dee Workforce Investment Board to enhance the overall workforce through the development and support of the SC Job Ready Certification website.

HillSouth's slogan is "Never Stop Thinking"; the company's extensive charity work shows they never stop caring, either.

S.C. Lieutenant Governor Andre Bauer delivered the keynote address at the annual luncheon.

This year's theme -- "S.C. Works -- Keys to Our Future Success" -- was about uniting all of the state to make it a better place to live and work.

There was also a special tribute to businesses which not only hire veterans but keep their jobs open for them in the event the veterans are deployed.

Sponsors for the event included the S.C. Departments of Social Services, S.C. Department of Commerce, S.C. Department of Commerce (Workforce Development), S.C. Department of Education, S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, S.C. Department of Social Services, S.C. Technical College System, the State Workforce Investment Administrative Department, SCESC, S.C. Vocational Rehabilitation Department, and the Catawba, Greenville, Lowcountry, Lower Savannah, Midlands, Pee Dee, Pendleton, Santee-Lynches, Trident, Upper Savannah, Upstate and Waccamaw Workforce Investment Areas.

CUTLINE INFORMATION:

HillSouth president and Founder Robby Hill, second from right, accepts the Palmetto Workforce Partnership "Small Business Winner" Award for his company. Joining him from left are S.C. Employment Security Executive Director Ted Halley, SCESC Commissioner Becky Richardson and S.C. Lieutenant Governor Andre Bauer.