Media Release

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IEDC Releases Comprehensive Leadership Study for Executive Economic Development Practitioners

WASHINGTON, DC (February 4, 2015) - DHR International - in conjunction with Somerville Partners, Inc. - has completed a comprehensive leadership study for the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). The study identifies a behavioral model for top performing economic development CEOs and validates an assessment protocol that directly correlates to performance.

"This study, A Behavioral Leadership Model for Top Performing Economic Development Executives, represents IEDC's continued commitment to leadership development," said Jeff Finkle, President and CEO of the IEDC in Washington, D.C. "As the leading association representing the economic development profession, it is important that IEDC be involved in setting high professional standards and performance expectations for our members," he said.

The study created a behavior style model for top performing economic development CEOs expressed in terms of their orientation to five key leadership factors: strategy, implementation, process, information, and relationships. The model provides a profile that will aid executives in designing their professional development programs and offers organizations another key measurement to assess CEO candidates during the hiring process.

"Executive economic development practitioners now have another important tool in their professional development arsenal, and economic development organization (EDO) boards of directors can use this statistically valid model to assist them in hiring new leadership into their organizations," said Dave Smith, EVP Economic Development for DHR International.
The study, *A Behavioral Leadership Model for Top Performing Economic Development Executives* is available on IEDC’s website (PDF) or DHR International's.

**About the International Economic Development Council**

The [International Economic Development Council](http://www.iedconline.org) (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 4,400 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC's members are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions. When we succeed, our members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. [www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org)

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