

# SBC names finalists for annual honor

## Paetec CEO Chesonis slated to serve as keynote speaker

The Small Business Council of the Rochester Business Alliance Inc. has named the finalists for this year's Business Person of the Year Award.

The 2008 finalists are:

- Lotfi Belkhir, founder and CEO, Kirtas Technologies Inc.
- Suzanne Clarridge, founder and CEO, My Brands Inc.
- John Doyle Jr., president and CEO, Doyle Security Systems Inc.
- Kenton Fiske, president and CEO, SenDEC Corp.
- Karla Fichter, CEO, and Kirsten Wer-

ner, president, Diamond Packaging

■ Erik Grimm, president, Suburban Disposal Corp.

■ William Pollock, president and CEO, Optimization Technology Inc.

■ Jerry Valentine, president, Surmotech Inc.

Individuals are nominated by their peers and finalists are chosen based on their business leadership and community involvement in Rochester and Monroe County. The award was established in 1983.

This year's recipient will be announced at the 26th Annual Small Business Council Business Person of the Year Gala. The event is scheduled for Oct. 15 at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. Arunas Chesonis, chairman and CEO of Paetec Holding Corp. is slated as the keynote speaker.

Pictometry International Corp. president and CEO Richard Kaplan received the 2007 award. Some 900 people attended the event held by the Small Business Council of the Rochester Business Alliance Inc., in conjunction with various partners.

The Rochester Business Journal is the major underwriter of the award and event.

Previous award recipients include Joseph Klein, CEO of Klein Steel Services Inc., 2006; James Hammer, president and CEO of Hammer Packaging Corp., 2005; Linda Yaniszewski, president and CEO of ExecuScribe Inc., 2004; Chris McVicker, president and CEO of Flanders Group Inc., 2003; Steven Sauer, chairman and CEO of Business Methods Inc., 2002; and Lauren Dixon, CEO of Dixon Schwabl Advertising Inc., 2001.

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