



The ESOP Association *News Release*
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Patrick Petro of Worm's Way, Inc. Named 2009 Employee Owner of the Year by The ESOP Association

May 6, 2009 (Washington, DC) – Patrick Petro of Worm's Way, Inc. in Bloomington, Indiana, has been named the 2009 Employee Owner of the Year by The ESOP Association. The award was presented at the Association's 32nd Annual Conference in Washington, DC. The ESOP Association is the national trade association for companies with employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs) and the leading voice in America for employee ownership.

Mr. Petro has been instrumental in making ownership meaningful at Worm's Way and has continued to actively expand his own ESOP knowledge and share it with employee owners at the company and with the ESOP community at large. He has proven himself to be an active leader in the company, especially in relation to the growth of the company's ownership culture. He has been a member of the Worm's Way ESOP Communications Committee for six years, acting as the Chair for the last five. He has played a vital role in the effectiveness and development of the Committee as well as the education of all employee owners on the benefits of employee ownership. He is an active member of the Indiana Chapter and is currently serving as the Chapter's Vice President of Membership with a goal of increasing membership of Indiana ESOP companies in The ESOP Association. He actively shares his ESOP knowledge by participating in ESOP Association Chapter events as both a speaker and an attendee.

"Patrick is an outstanding ESOP advocate not only for his own company but for all Indiana ESOP companies," said J. Michael Keeling, president of The ESOP Association. "He has worked to develop a strong ESOP culture at Worm's Way and those of other companies in the ESOP community. I am honored to present him with this award."

The core cause of The ESOP Association is the belief that employee ownership will improve American competitiveness, increase productivity through greater employee participation, and strengthen our free enterprise economy.

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