



Minnesota-Dakotas Chapter of the ESOP Association
Doubletree Hotel, Minneapolis, MN
January 26, 2012

**Understanding and Communicating the Technical Elements of an ESOP
Real World Stories of Challenges**

This meeting will be in a 2-track format in order to present issues on fiduciary review of an annual valuation report and how to understand and communicate your ESOP participant statement.

- 12:15 Registration opens for those wishing to attend the ESOP Basics Session
- 12:30 – 1:00 **ESOP Basics** - Join a discussion of ESOP terms and issues along with other ESOP basic information. A good opportunity for new members and ESOP companies to pick up the baseline information on employee ownership and ask the experts any questions they may have.
Moderators: Lynn Archer, Barnes & Thornburg and Jim Myott, Boulay Heutmaker Zibell
- 12:30 – 1:00 Registration for General Meeting
- 1:00 - 1:30 Chapter Business
- 1:30 – 2:00 **Company Profile – Assurance Manufacturing – Herb Lindberg, President**
Assurance Manufacturing is a precision sheet metal fabrication, precision stamping and assembly company. They established their ESOP in 1994. Assurance employees 100 people and they are 100% employee owned. Herb Lindberg has been the president of Assurance for 8 years. He still makes coffee when the lunchroom runs out and he can still drive a forklift!
- 2:00 – 2:15 Break
- 2:15 – 3:15 **Breakout #1 – Trustee and Management Issues**
Panel #1 – Best practices for Internal Trustees When Reviewing an Annual Valuation Report.
Chris Staloch from Chartwell and a trustee from an ESOP company will discuss their perspectives.
- Breakout #2 – Participant Communications**
Panel #1 - ESOP 101 – How to Understand and Communicate Your ESOP Participant Statements.
Steve Storkan from Employee Benefits Group and Joel Davis from Principal Financial.
- 3:15 – 3:30 Break
- 3:30 – 4:30 **Breakout #1 – Trustee and Management Issues**
Panel #2 – Fiduciary Issues Presented by Reviewing an Annual Valuation Report
Bob Gross from Prairie Capital, Susan Lenczewski of Gray Plant Mooty and Debbie Williams from Bankers Trust of South Dakota will share their thoughts.
- Breakout #2 – Participant Communications**
Panel #2 – Solutions and Ideas on Communication Challenges and Opportunities.
Victor Aspengren from Prairie Capital will moderate a panel of ESOP Committee members who will share their stories.
- 4:30 – 5:30 Reception - Stay for complimentary refreshments and discuss your reaction to today's discussion.