

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pittsburgh Regional Alliance Receives Excellence in Economic Development Award from the International Economic Development Council

“Pittsburgh Tech Crawl” Media Tour Captures Silver Excellence Award

(PITTSBURGH – Oct. 7, 2015) The [Pittsburgh Regional Alliance](#) (PRA) received a Silver Excellence in Economic Development Award for its project – “Pittsburgh Tech Crawl” – in the category of Special Event for communities with populations greater than 500,000 from the [International Economic Development Council](#) (IEDC).

The honor was presented at an awards ceremony on Tuesday, Oct. 6, during the 2015 IEDC Annual Conference, which was held October 4-7, in Anchorage, Alaska.

“From localized community projects, to large scale endeavors, economic development efforts have played a vital role in the global economy,” said JoAnn Crary, CEcD, Chair of the International Economic Development Council and President of Saginaw Future Inc. “As we address new and longstanding challenges, these efforts continue to take on even greater importance. The award serves as a salute to pacesetting organizations like Pittsburgh Regional Alliance for leading the charge.”

The Pittsburgh Regional Alliance (PRA) hosted the Pittsburgh Tech Crawl media familiarization tour in Sept. 2014 to raise the profile of the 10-county Pittsburgh region’s robust information technology (IT) sector as an attractive and reliable option for IT-related business investment. The tour brought to the region 10 tech-focused international, national and regional journalists – representing publications such as *Fast Company*, *Tech Cocktail*, *Network World*, *Site Selection*, the *Jerusalem Post* and *Groupe Les Affaires* – and provided a VIP exploration of the thriving Pittsburgh tech scene. Journalists toured the region and visited tech companies, startups, leading university tech programs, R&D facilities and experts for a hands-on experience of the vibrant tech ecosystem. The tour earned 15 pieces of national and international media coverage. It also garnered 61,000 impressions through social media.

The PRA – the economic development marketing affiliate of the [Allegheny Conference on Community Development](#) – markets the benefits of conducting business in the 10-county southwestern Pennsylvania region to companies all over the world that are growing, relocating or expanding. The PRA also works to support the growth of existing regional employers.

Recipients of IEDC's Excellence in Economic Development Awards demonstrate to an experienced panel of judges that they are at the forefront of the economic development profession. They are recognized as the world’s best economic development programs and partnerships, marketing materials, and the year’s most influential leaders. These awards honor organizations and individuals for their efforts in creating positive change in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

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About the International Economic Development Council

The [International Economic Development Council](http://iedconline.org) (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 4,600 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. Visit iedconline.org.

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