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Department of Technology and Information Receives International Award of Excellence

Secretary of the Department of Technology and Information (DTI) James Sills III announces that Delaware received the “Strategy of the Year” Award from DRI International, a non-profit organization and global education and certification body that serves the business continuity community.

DTI was recognized for this International Award of Excellence for the development of a Business Continuity/Continuity of Operations strategy and its implementation in all state government departments and divisions. The goal of the COOP program, as it is known, is to ensure that critical government services remain available or are quickly restored in the advent of a natural disaster or other calamity.

DTI began the business continuity implementation in 2006. Working in conjunction with the Delaware Emergency Management Agency, a prioritized list was developed using the following criteria. Tier I agencies are those agencies necessary for immediate public safety and public health response or those essential to the preservation of continuity of constitutional government in Delaware, including the Governor’s Office and others essential to state economic security. Tier II agencies are those essential to follow-on support to emergency response and recovery efforts, or that provide non-emergent support to functions essential to constitutional government. Tier III includes all other agencies.

Delaware’s strategy received high marks for thoroughness, total state government participation and regularly scheduled comprehensive drills and tests. The State uses a fully integrated emergency notification system that synchronizes with the State’s Business Continuity Planning Tool. The synchronization enables the state to utilize employee, customer/partner, and vendor contact information to be shared among the systems to eliminate duplication of work between the systems.

The DTI employees who were honored for their outstanding efforts and commitment to Delaware’s citizens are: Sandee Alexander, Claudette Martin-Wus, Peggy Cole, Heather Volkomer, Lisa Wragg, Charles Campbell-King, Richelle Edwards, and Elayne Starkey.