

For Immediate Release:

September 20, 2013

For More Information:

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Governor Walker Proclaims October 2013 as Employee Ownership Month

September 20, 2013 – Governor Scott Walker recognizes October 2013 as Wisconsin’s Employee Ownership Month. The proclamation, for employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs), was signed by Governor Walker on August 27 and announced by Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch at the recent Midwest ESOP Association Conference in Milwaukee. It states that employee ownership helps Americans share in our nation’s growth and prosperity by enabling citizens to accumulate capital stock in the business at which they are employed; that employee ownership has become an incentive for Americans to make the best of their talents and energies at their places of work, strengthening the potential of Wisconsin’s businesses; that employee ownership helps create and retain jobs in our state; and that employee owned firms benefit both companies and employees.

The ESOP Association is founded on the core belief that employee ownership will improve American competitiveness, increase productivity through greater employee participation, and strengthen our free enterprise economy. There are approximately 179 ESOP companies in Wisconsin, employing nearly 100,000 people.

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STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; employee stock ownership plans, also known as ESOP, exist in approximately 10,000 companies in the United States, employing 10.3 million working men and women; and

WHEREAS; employee ownership is instrumental in helping Americans share in our nation's growth and prosperity by enabling our citizens to accumulate significant amounts of capital stock in the business where they are employed; and

WHEREAS; employee ownership has become a powerful incentive for Americans to make the best of their talents and energies in their places of work, thus strengthening the competitive potential of our state's businesses; and

WHEREAS; employee ownership helps create and retain jobs in our state; and

WHEREAS; the successful record of many employee-owned firms benefits both companies and employees;

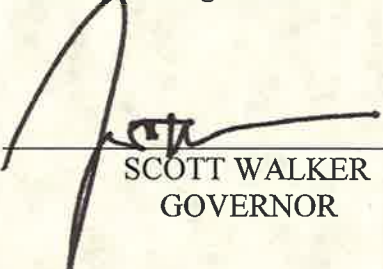
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Scott Walker, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 2013, as

EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all of our citizens.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 27th day of August 2013.


SCOTT WALKER
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State