

VALDOSTA - LOWNDES COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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For Immediate Release

Local Entrepreneur Featured in National Magazine

VALDOSTA, Ga.—Bill Kent, President of Innovate Engineering Solutions, was featured in the April edition of *The Magazine for Professional Engineers*, which is distributed to 40,000 top engineers across the country.

Professional Engineers (PE) editor found Kent's story online after Kent's business plan for Innovate won the Valdosta-Lowndes Chamber's Guardian Bank Business Plan Competition. Intrigued by the competition and Kent's decision to start a firm in rough economic times, PE editor contacted Kent for an interview.

In the article Kent states, "I started my company without a technically 'complete' business plan. I knew by entering the competition, I would get the professional assistance required to put all of the details in there I was missing. While the financial award of \$15,000 for winning the competition has been a tremendous help, having a business plan that has been reviewed by other business leaders will be the most beneficial to me. I now have a road map of where I want to lead this company into the future."

Innovate Engineering Solutions provides land development planning, civil engineering, site design and engineering services in Valdosta and throughout Georgia and Florida.

It is not too late to participate in this year's competition which is open to anyone who is interested in starting a business in Lowndes County with intentions of employing university or college graduates. The deadline to submit applications is Monday, May 16. Applications can be downloaded online from www.SEEDSBusinessResourceCenter.com or picked up at any Guardian Bank location, Wiregrass Georgia Technical College, the VSU Small Business Development Center or the Chamber.

Please contact Varian Brown at 229-247-8100 or visit www.SEEDSBusinessResourceCenter.com for more information. To read the full article, visit www.ValdostaChamber.com/Newsroom.

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Pictured: Bill Kent, Innovate Engineering Solutions President, winner of the Chamber's 2010 Guardian Bank Business Plan Competition