

*News Release:*

## **Sharon Hulce Named Athena Award Winner**

Appleton, WI (Oct. 20, 2005) – Sharon K. Hulce, president and CEO of Employment Resource Group Inc., has been named the 2005 Athena Award winner by the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce and Industry. She received the prestigious award at a dinner attended by 900 people at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel on Oct. 19.

The Athena Award was established in Lansing, Michigan, 20 years ago to recognize the significant accomplishments of businesswomen in the United States. Hulce is the 21st local winner of the annual award.

The award was presented by John Bergstrom, who was last year named the nation's top automotive dealer in the United States by Time magazine. Coincidentally, Bergstrom is Hulce's business mentor.

In accepting the award, Hulce noted that she's "never been a big fan of the Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus philosophy. However, one of my all-time favorite quotes is this: 'Ginger Rodgers did everything Fred Astaire did, only backwards and in high heels.'"

ERG, which recently celebrated its third anniversary, was the Chamber's small business "Rising Star" in 2004. Paired with the Athena Award, Hulce "is well established as a community leader," according to Pamela Hull of the Chamber.