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**KEENEY ELECTED AS NEW MANAGEMENT CO-CHAIR OF THE
LABOR-MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

EDWARDSVILLE, IL., June 19, 2006 . . . The Labor-Management Committee of the Leadership Council today announced that Kenneth Keeney, owner and CEO of Pyramid Electrical Contractors, Inc. and resident of Fairview Heights, Ill., has been unanimously elected as the new management co-chair for the Labor Management Committee of the Leadership Council. Keeney is taking over the post previously held by Ron Wilson, who regretfully resigned in March upon leaving his position with The Great Southwestern Illinois Association.

Keeney has been with Fairview Heights-based Pyramid Electrical Contractors, Inc. for 25+ years. He began his tenure as project superintendent in 1981, took over ownership and became vice president in 1983, and has been serving as CEO of the company since 1994. Prior to joining Pyramid Electrical Contractors, Keeney worked as a journeyman wireman for IBEW Local 309.

Keeney is involved with numerous other organizations and committees serving as the chairman for the Fairview Heights Electrical Commission, the Southwestern Illinois Division of NECA, NECA Labor Management Committee, NECA Negotiating Committee, IBEW Local 309 Health & Welfare Fund, and IBEW 309 Vacation Fund; and serves as president of Midwest Regional Peer Group of Electrical Contractors; a delegate for the NECA Telecommunications and Strategic Planning Committees, a member of the Belleville Building Zone of Appeals; secretary of the IBEW Local 309 Income Security Fund; and trustee of the IBEW Local 309 401k Retirement Fund.

Keeney joins William Thurston, president of the Southwestern Illinois Central Labor Council who serves as the labor co-chair in heading the committee of labor, management and ex-officio members, who represent various industries, crafts and trades, as well as businesses and educational institutions. Together these individuals work to strengthen labor-management relationships and foster cooperation in an effort to create a "labor-management friendly" environment that promotes economic development throughout the region and beyond. To learn more, visit www.gatewaylabormanagement.org.

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