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**FARM BUREAU NAMES HEAVY EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURING OF GRUNDY CENTER AS
MAY'S RENEW RURAL IOWA LEADER AWARD WINNER**

WEST DES MOINES, IOWA – May 10, 2007 –A big concrete paving industry equipment manufacturer with a long track record of success is in the spotlight once again for winning the May Farm Bureau Renew Rural Iowa Leader Award.

Heavy Equipment Manufacturing (HEM) of Grundy Center builds a full range of slip form pavers, placer/spreaders, grade trimmers, texture/cure machines, canal pavers, powered work bridges and custom designed machines for specific customer needs. HEM machines are paving airports and interstates throughout the U.S. and around the world. Their reputation for success has helped HEM grow at a steady pace.

HEM's design staff, with more than 60 years of combined experience in the slip form paving field, spends as much time as possible with contractors on jobs around the world. "Our customers, seasoned professionals in the highway/airport building business, have been a great resource in determining which equipment features are important and necessary, and which ones have little long lasting value. We make it a point of determining what the customer wants, instead of telling the customer what he is going to get," says HEM President Roger Bockes.

"Heavy Equipment Manufacturing has an amazing success story," says Dave Lyons, Farm Bureau chief business development officer. "Their reputation and entrepreneurial spirit has shaped this company's success, not just in the concrete paving industry, but in the Grundy Center community. "We're proud to have Heavy Equipment Manufacturing be the Renew Rural Iowa Leader winner and an inspiring role model to entrepreneurs across the state," says Lyons.

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The Renew Rural Iowa Award is a designation within that program, which honors leading entrepreneurs as a testament to the vitality, creativity and cooperation of Iowa's rural communities. HEM Leaders are a part of the Renew Rural Iowa program; a Farm Bureau initiative that combines an innovative mentoring model for entrepreneurs with a rural vitality investment fund. The seminars take place in small communities around the state throughout the year and are designed to enhance the enterprise value of existing or new small town businesses to encourage their reinvestment within the community.

The next Renew Rural Iowa seminar will be May 17-18 at Riverside Casino, near Iowa City. For more information about Renew Rural Iowa, log on to Farm Bureau's website at www.iowafarmbureau.com and click on the Renew Rural Iowa icon to register.

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About Iowa Farm Bureau

The Iowa Farm Bureau Federation is a grassroots, statewide organization dedicated to enhancing the People, Progress and Pride of Iowa. More than 153,000 families in Iowa are Farm Bureau members, working together to achieve farm and rural prosperity. For more information about Farm Bureau and agriculture, visit the online media center at www.iowafarmbureau.com.