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Adams Transfer & Storage Company Inc. (ATS) in Gainesville Is Georgia's 2008 Family-Owned Business of the Year *--Company has had Four Generations of Management--*

Adams Transfer & Storage Company Inc., led by Executive Vice President James J. (Jimmy) Adams, has been named the Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Business of the Year in Georgia by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Jimmy Adams will receive his company's Family-Owned Business Award from Terri Denison, SBA Georgia District Director, at an Atlanta luncheon in late spring hosted by the Georgia Lenders Quality Circle. The company was nominated for the statewide award by the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce.

The SBA Award recognizes a family-owned business with outstanding growth in sales and profits as well as one that provides employment opportunities for both family and non-family employees. The award also goes to a company that shows potential for long-term business growth while providing voluntary community services.

Adams Transfer and Storage (ATS) has been a cornerstone of the Gainesville-Hall County business community since R.E. Adams opened the Gainesville office in 1949. In 1958, ATS served a vital role in the creation of Lake Lanier, one of Hall County's most important economic resources. The company was responsible for moving houses, household goods and livestock to prepare for the flooding of land for the lake.

A Gainesville native, Jimmy Adams' drive and dedication to his family were witnessed at an early age. In 1981, his father, R.E. Adams, suffered a cerebral hemorrhage while Jimmy Adams was a student at the University of Georgia. The young Adams took over management of his father's Athens and Gainesville offices while completing his courses for a BBA in Transportation/Physical Distribution at UGA in 1983.

After college, Adams realized the moving business suffered from seasonal ups and downs. To help correct the problem, he started a new company division, Georgia Data Storage in



At right is Terri Denison, SBA Georgia District Director, who presented the award to Mr. Adams.

Gainesville. In 2002 the company, now known as Adams Data Management, relocated to Atlanta and started to target potential customers outside of Georgia. Today, the company has a state-of-the-art Firelock vault for data tape and media storage.

In 1988, Adams led the development and became President of the Adams Companies which is active in industrial property acquisitions. Currently, the company has 13 properties in the Atlanta and Gainesville area with some 1.7 million square feet of commercial and industrial space. In 1993, the company restored the historic Gainesville Mill, a 400,000 square foot, turn-of-the-century textile factory in downtown Gainesville.

Over the past five years, Adams Transfer and Storage has posted a 20 percent increase in profits and a 24 percent increase in assets. The combined offices in Gainesville and Atlanta have employed a consistent 76 people over the same period.

A number of awards have gone to both Jimmy Adams and his family-owned company. Adams Transfer and Storage was named the Cox 2003 Family Business of the Year, an award initiated by Kennesaw University's Cox Family Enterprise Center. And in 1995, the Gainesville Jaycees recognized Jimmy Adams as the Young Man of the Year.