**Foundation Approves Baldrige
Funding Through 2015**

Consistent with its purpose, the Foundation for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, Inc. voted last week to commit funds to sustain the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program (BPEP) through fiscal year 2015. The funding is further evidence of the foundation’s commitment to the long-term viability of Baldrige.

The foundation stipulated that the use of the funds is for the furtherance of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and BPEP. The foundation will review the gift annually to determine any appropriate adjustments for a rolling three-year period.

Foundation Chair Debbie J. Collard said the foundation’s support is due in part to its confidence in the ongoing development of the business and financial model by the Baldrige Enterprise, which includes BPEP, the foundation, the Alliance for Performance Excellence, and ASQ. BPEP will use the funding in conjunction with revenues raised through a variety of fee-based product and service offerings to ensure both its and the Enterprise’s sustainability.

In addition, the foundation has retained a professional fundraising firm to assist with its efforts on increasing the Foundation endowment. Firm representatives will be attending the 24th Annual Quest for Excellence to collect data and determine key messages.

Members of the foundation Board of Directors are Debbie J. Collard, director, Strategy Integration, The Boeing Company (chair); P. George Benson, PhD, president, College of Charleston (chair-elect); William Petasnick, president and CEO, Froedtert & Community Health (secretary); Letitia Baldrige, Letitia Baldrige Enterprises; Anne Bryant, PhD, executive director, National School Boards Association; G. Richard Hastings, president and CEO  (retired), Saint Luke's Health System; Frank Fusco, executive director, South Carolina Budget and Control Board; Malcolm B. Hollensteiner, director, retail lending sales, TD Bank; Paul G. Kuchuris, Jr., president, Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME); Wright Lassiter, Jr., PhD, chancellor, Dallas County Community College District; Michael Murphy, president and CEO, Sharp HealthCare; Susan Sarfati, CAE, president/CEO, High Performance Strategies; Horst Schulze, president and CEO, The West Paces Hotel Group; E. David Spong, PhD, president (retired), Boeing Aerospace Support; and W. Paul Worstell, president/CEO (retired), PRO-TEC Coating Co.

Watch for more information/details about BPEP and the Baldrige Enterprise at http://www.nist.gov/baldrige/transition/index.cfm.