



**For Immediate Release**

**September 7, 2006**

For more information,  
Contact Rebecca Randall, NASPO Issue Coordinator  
(859) 514-9159 or [randall@amrms.com](mailto:randall@amrms.com)

---

*NASPO honors Rhode Island's Fiscal Fitness Initiative*

Lexington, Ky. — The National Association of State Procurement Officials honored three innovative state procurement programs at its Annual Meeting in Boise, Idaho, when it presented its annual Cronin Club awards. The awards are broken into two categories; Classic and Information Technology.

The State of Rhode Island received the 2006 Cronin Classic Silver Award on August 29<sup>th</sup> for its *Fiscal Fitness Initiative*. The Fiscal Fitness team has been immersed in a comprehensive review of state government since 2003. The initiative, coined "The Big Audit" has evolved into a detailed analysis of processes, procedures and areas of potential improved efficiency. "Why do we do it this way?" has probably been asked at water coolers throughout Rhode Island's state departments and agencies in years past, but now an environment had been created to respond to the larger question: "Is there a better way to do this?" One area certainly ripe for innovation and offering high dividends for success was the procurement of goods and services. Fiscal Fitness first sought to "put our own house in order," by learning from successful strategies both inside and outside of government and then creating a network to share this information on a larger scale.

Since 1985, the Cronin Club Innovation Awards have recognized innovative state procurement programs and promoted the sharing of ideas between states. The Cronin Club is a committee of past presidents of the association and is named for the first NASPO President, George Cronin. More information on the awarded programs is available on the NASPO homepage at <http://www.naspo.org>.

*The National Association of State Procurement Officials is a non-profit association dedicated to strengthening the procurement community through education, research, and communication. It is made up of the directors of the central purchasing offices in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the territories of the United States. NASPO is an organization through which the member purchasing officials provide leadership in professional public purchasing, improve the quality of purchasing and procurement, exchange information and cooperate to attain greater efficiency and economy.*

###

For more information on NASPO and its recent initiatives, please contact Rebecca Randall, NASPO Issue Coordinator, at (859) 514-9159 or [randall@amrms.com](mailto:randall@amrms.com).

AMR Management Services, Inc. (AMR) provides NASPO with full management services. For more information about AMR visit [www.AMRms.com](http://www.AMRms.com).

