



**CONWAY FAMILY BUSINESS CENTER**  
of central ohio

PRESS RELEASE  
November 30, 2009

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**Experts to Discuss Strategies for Successful Succession Planning**  
*Critical Advice for Central Ohio Family Business Leaders*

Columbus, Ohio – With only 30 percent of family-owned businesses surviving into the second generation and only 12 percent making it into the third generation, ensuring the viability of a family business for future generations should be a pressing concern for leaders of family-owned businesses, according to J. Richard Emens, executive director, Conway Family Business Center of Central Ohio.

To simplify the succession planning process, the Conway Center will help family business leaders start succession planning or revisit current plans during its final educational program of 2009, "The Best Gift You Can Give Your Family and Yourself is a Succession Plan for your Family Business". The program will be held on Thursday, December 3, from 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m., at Ohio Dominican University's Alumni Hall, 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus.

Jim Balthaser, a partner and chair of the Private Companies Practice Group at Thompson Hine LLP, and Tony Kington, a partner and family-owned business chair at Chester, Willcox, & Saxbe LLP, will share some of the best practices and biggest challenges they've faced in their experiences with succession planning. They also will offer suggestions on how to navigate some of the most common hurdles faced by family businesses going through the succession planning process.

Family business owners will learn about the problems that arise in transferring control of a family business from one generation to the next, alternatives available when dividing a business and other assets, and dealing with the problems the next generation will face if there is no clear choice for a company's next leader.

The Conway Family Business Center of Central Ohio is a not-for-profit organization that provides educational programs, resources and networking opportunities to support the growth and success of family-owned businesses. In addition, the Center celebrates the successes of family-owned businesses at its annual awards program and offers peer group opportunities for next-generation leaders and women family business owners. The organization is comprised of more than 100 member businesses from Central Ohio. Visit [www.familybusinesscenter.com](http://www.familybusinesscenter.com) for more information.

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