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STERLING CONSTRUCTION'S RLW SUBSIDIARY WINS

TWO 2011 BEST OF STATE AWARDS

INCLUDING COVETED BOSS AWARD

HOUSTON, TX –June 8, 2011 – Sterling Construction Company, Inc. (NasdaqGS: STRL), ("Sterling" or the "Company") today announced that its Utah subsidiary, Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company, LLC ("RLW"), won two Best of State Awards, taking home the medal in the "Heavy Construction" category and then the BOSS (Best of State Statue), awarded to the overall winner in the Business Services division, at the Best of State Awards Gala in Salt Lake City on June 4, 2011.

The Best of State Awards were created to annually recognize outstanding individuals, and the best organizations and businesses in Utah. A panel of Best of State Judges look for individuals, businesses, and organizations that:

- Demonstrate achievement and excellence in their fields of endeavor, producing superior results and outcomes
- Differentiate themselves through innovation or creativity in approaches, techniques, methods, or processes, and
- Contribute to a better quality of life in Utah

Those criteria were used to judge the winners in each Best of State category, which include Business Services, Dining, Education, Science & Technology, and Production & Manufacturing. In selecting winners, judges weigh each of the following factors: achievement in the field of endeavor, producing superior results and outcomes (50%); innovation or creativity in approaches techniques, methods, or processes (30%); and contribution to a better quality of life in Utah (20%).

Winners from each category receive a Best of State medal, as RLW did in Heavy Construction. Following the initial Best of State medal round, medal winners in each division are then resubmitted to the judges and scored again. The highest scoring entry from each of the ten general divisions is selected to receive the BOSS (A 22-pound, gold plated Best of State Statue), which was presented at the 2011 Annual awards Gala. In that competition, for the second time in three years, RLW was judged to be the best company in the Business Services division, competing against 30 other category winners. Since 2005, RLW has been awarded 5 Best of State medals for Heavy Construction, 6 medals for Heavy Highway-related aesthetic sculpture and 2 Best of State Statues in the Business Services division.

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Kip L. Wadsworth, President of Ralph L. Wadsworth, stated, “We are delighted to once again be judged Best in State in both the Heavy Construction category and Business Services Division. We have deep roots in the state of Utah and we are proud to have played an important part in building and maintaining its infrastructure. All of us at RLW are committed to the continued pursuit of excellence, innovation and making an ongoing contribution to Utah’s quality of life.”

Sterling is a leading heavy civil construction company that specializes in the building and reconstruction of transportation and water infrastructure in large and growing markets in Texas, Utah, Nevada and other states where there are construction opportunities. Its transportation infrastructure projects include highways, roads, bridges and light rail and its water infrastructure projects include water, wastewater and storm drainage systems.

Contact:

Sterling Construction Company, Inc.
Brian Manning
EVP & Chief Business Development Officer
Elizabeth Brumley
Chief Accounting Officer & Controller
281-821-9091

Investor Relations Counsel
The Equity Group Inc.
Linda Latman 212-836-9609
Lena Cati 212-836-9611