



# NEWS RELEASE

## WYOMING DISTRICT OFFICE

---

Release Date: April

Contact: Sharon Nichols (307) 261-6508

Release Number: 05

Internet Address: <http://www.sba.gov/wy>

### **Kon Ho In Named Small Business Person of the Year 2005**

**Casper** – The Wyoming District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has named Kon Ho In, owner and operator of Star Video Library, LLC; Best Star, Inc. dba Star Video Audio; Best Star, Inc. dba Star Computer Depot; and Best, Inc.; Small Business Person of the Year 2005. This award will be presented to Mr. In on April 11, 2005 at the monthly Sheridan County Chamber Luncheon.

This award is given to an individual who owns and operates or bears principal responsibility for operating a small business that demonstrates a substantiated history as an established business. Other evaluation criteria includes, growth in number of employees, increase in sales, innovative product or service, response to adversity and the contributions by the nominee to aid community oriented projects. The President of the United States recognizes contributions of the small business community to the American economy and society by proclamation each year.

Mr. In, was born in Moon Sun City, Korea, he attended Korean schools for 14 years which included two years of college, majoring in Business. During his schooling he studied English, and by his middle school years had learned how to read and write in this language. He came to the United States in 1979 and became a U.S. citizen. Mr. In started Star Video Library in the early evenings, and then after that went to work as a school janitor. He started the Star Video Library store in a rental garage in 1983. Since that very small beginning, his business has grown enormously. He now owns a city block in Sheridan, Wyoming. This city block contains a 7,000 and a 2,500 square foot building. He also has a 4,000 square foot building in Gillette with substantial commercial retail property in both locations. Mr. In currently employs 22 employees. According to nominator, John L. Piesik, President/Owner, Midwestern States Mortgage Company, "I believe he demonstrates that hard work, honesty and dedication can build a very successful business in the State of Wyoming. His business sense and accountability are key factors in his success" said Mr. Piesik.

Mr. In has contributed financially to The American Cancer Society, The United Way, The Salvation Army, donated money for youth trips, a central fund for drawings and the Business Club at the local high school. He has also donated free software to local college students.

###