

Wisconsin Business Bank earns No. 1 rank in small business lending

Press staff

Wisconsin Business Bank led the state in rural development loan origination for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30., bank president Kevin TenPas announced.

According to recently released U.S. Government data, Wisconsin Business Bank originated more than \$25 million in rural development business and industry loans during the government's fiscal year, more than any other bank in Wisconsin. The data was compiled by the Coleman Report, which gathers data for the government.

In addition to leading the state, Wisconsin Business Bank ranked No. 4 in the nation in this category of loan origination, maintaining its status of being in the top 10 for the second year in a row. The bank ranked No. 7 in the nation last year. The bank originated more than five times the loan volume of its nearest Wisconsin bank competitor by more than five times.

Wisconsin Business Bank is

one of the fastest growing banks in the state. Founded in 1999, the bank currently has assets exceeding \$100 million.

"America's 24 million small businesses employ more than 52 percent of the private workforce and are responsible for the vast majority of new job creation. Their credit needs are quite different from larger corporations, and demand special attention and expertise," said Kevin TenPas, Wisconsin Business Bank President.

Government guaranteed loans can extend up to 30 years.

"We believe long-term assets should be funded by long-term loans. This gives small businesses staying power, particularly during economic slowdowns such as we are currently experiencing," said Russell Schuler, Chairman of the bank,

Both Schuler and TenPas are former Firststar Bank executives, and both are past SBA Wisconsin Financial Service Advocates of the Year.

The bank has offices in Sheboygan and Green Bay.
