

# Best Places to Work

### Most Valuable Employees in Huntsville/Madison County Announced

Fifteen companies in Huntsville/Madison County were selected as the "Best Places to Work" – while nine employees were named the Most Valuable Employees in Huntsville/Madison County at the fourth annual Best Places to Work awards luncheon at the Von Braun Center. The event was cohosted by the Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville/Madison County and the North Alabama Society for Human Resource Management and presented by System Studies & Simulation.

More than 100 organizations were initially nominated for the award and more than 70 qualified for the honor.

Winners were based solely on a survey completed by employees and were selected in three categories: organizations with between 25 and 74 local employees; organizations with between 75 and 249 local employees; and employers with 250 local employees or more. Danny Windham, the Chamber's vice chair of workforce, opened the event and praised the winners for being "the best of the best."

"Despite facing numerous challenges locally while dealing with a still-recovering economy, our business community still continued to be recognized as one of the nation's leading places to launch, sustain and grow a business," Windham said.

Quantum Workplace measured and selected companies based on the following criteria: Team Effectiveness, Retention Probability, Alignment with Goals, Trust with Coworkers, Individual Contribution, Manager Effectiveness, Trust in Senior Leaders, Feeling Valued, Work Engagement, People Practices.

Once nominated, Quantum, a company that specializes in measuring workplace satisfaction around the country, administered a survey to employees and tabulated the results. Winners were based exclusively on the outcome of the employee surveys.



Winners of the Best Places to Work in Huntsville/Madison County. More than 70 businesses/organizations qualified as contenders after more than 100 were nominated. The award gives quantifiable evidence to best practices of the community's employers.

### Winners in each of the categories for Best Places to Work:

#### 25-74 workers

- Brockwell Technologies, Inc.
- Good Samaritan Hospice
  of Madison
- i3

#### • QTEC, Inc.

- Venturi, Inc.
- 75-249 workers
  - Avion Solutions, Inc.\*
  - Intuitive Research & Technology\*^
  - Modern Technology Solutions, Inc.\*
  - PeopleTec, Inc.
  - Sigmatech, Inc.
- 250 or more workers
  - Wyle CAS Group\*
  - Dynetics, Inc.
  - ERC, Inc.
  - Huntsville Hospital System
  - URS\*

\* Three time Best Places to Work winner \*^ Four time Best Places to Work winner

### Winners in each of the categories

25-74 workers

for Best Employees:

- Chuck Brasher, Calhoun Community College
- Kelley Howard, Alatec, Inc.
- Marianna Oakley, Venturi, Inc.
- 75-249 workers
  - Amy Perry, TASC, Inc.
  - Juanita Phillips, Intuitive Research & Technology, Corp.
  - Susie Vaughn, PeopleTec, Inc.
- 250 or more workers
  - Jill Curtis, URS
  - Marsha Garner, Wyle CAS Group
  - Richard Jones, URS

## Best Places to Work: In Their Own Words

#### SMALL CATEGORY

#### i3

i3 has grown dramatically, in part to the adoption of a corporate culture that prides itself on being different such as giving employees opportunities to build their wealth to eliminating middle management and empowering and incentivizing employees.

#### Venturi, Inc.

A cornerstone of any successful organization is the ability for company leaders not only to hire good workers, but to keep them. Venturi has a phenomenal retention rate greater than 90 percent.

#### **Good Samaritan Hospice of Madison**

Good Samaritan Hospice of Madison has a staff that goes above and beyond the call of duty in caring for its customers. These workers provide end of life care to individuals and families facing a terminal diagnosis. This locally-owned company employs highly motivated and experienced registered nurses, aides and social workers with high morals and personal ethics.

#### QTEC

The company brings together a diverse array of professionals

with a culture that encourages mutual respect, mentoring, innovation and having fun together with extensive knowledge in the company's support domains.

#### Brockwell Technologies, Inc.

This company values its employees so much that it is actually an employee-owned company, and this focus on the employee has resulted in better customer service to its clients.

#### **MEDIUM CATEGORY**

#### **Avion Solutions**

Avion offers an employee stock ownership plan - ensuring that the employees have the opportunity to not only work for the company's success, but to benefit from that success as well.

#### Modern Technology Solutions, Inc.

Modern Technology Solutions specializes in hiring technically proficient and highly educated workers with nearly 100 percent of its technical staff holding at least a bachelor's degree and more than 60 percent holding a master's degree or higher.

#### **PeopleTec**

The culture of PeopleTec is people-centric, focusing on open communication, employee support, community involvement, in-



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tegrity and teamwork. The management team focuses on taking care of its employees, who then take care of their clients.

#### Sigmatech

Sigmatech's success is a sum of many parts and includes: motivated and talented management, dedication to customer service: conservative financial practices: ethical business practices: and excellent services that instill faith in the customer.

#### Intuitive Research and **Technology Corporation**

Intuitive has built a reputation for focusing on its employees while providing excellent, customer-centric technical and programmatic support to clients throughout defense, commercial and governmental sectors. The company continues to receive national recognition for its employee recruitment and retention policies, and the corporate culture promotes a work-life balance.

#### LARGE CATEGORY

#### **Dynetics**

Dynetics' mission is to bring expertise, integrity and tenacity to every relationship and to demonstrate its commitment to its customers by providing solutions to technical challenges in intelligence, missiles, aviation, cyber and space.

#### ERC

One thing that sets ERC apart is a long-standing commitment to hire employees who are passionate about work and passionate about life. Employees who care about doing a great job, and doing it right and safely, have made the company such a great success.

#### Wyle CAS Group

Wyle CAS Group's success is driven by a focus on hiring team members who are educated and experienced - 80 percent of its workforce has at least a Bachelor's degree and 95 percent of its workers have five or more years of experience.

#### URS

URS has created a successful corporate culture based on empowering and incentivizing its employees. Whether through "on the spot" awards or open door policies in which employees are free to express ideas/concerns, the company's investment in its people has earned recognition from organizations such as the global human resources firm Hewitt Associates and FORTUNE magazine, among numerous others.

#### **Huntsville Hospital System**

Huntsville Hospital's success is partly thanks to a focused initiative known as The Power of Excellence, an expansive, employee-driven initiative designed to help the organization reach the highest levels of customer service and to ensure the delivery of the highest level of care to its customers.

• Harrison Diamond & John Southerland

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