

The Best Places to Work

Success is Fueled by People Power for This Year's Awards Event



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One glance at the national media accolades that Huntsville, Madison and Madison County routinely receive and it quickly becomes obvious that the area is a good place to work and do business.

So if a local company is recognized at the Best Places to Work event, it doesn't just mean that they are the "best." It means they are the "best of the best."

Calling out the winners of the Best Places to Work recently took a little longer than in previous years. The Fifth Annual BPTW saw an expanded list of trophy-getters as the Chamber of Commerce added a new "micro" category to reflect the high percentage of Chamber members that have between 25 and 35 employees.

This year, there were four size categories and five winners in each category. Additionally, three individuals were recognized in each size group as the Most Valuable Employees in Huntsville/Madison County.

First Commercial Bank was the presenting sponsor of the event, held at the Von Braun Center. BPTW was again co-hosted by the North Alabama Society for Human Resource Management (NASHRM).

More than 200 organizations were initially nominated for the award, and more than 60 completed surveys to qualify for the honor.

Winners were based solely on surveys completed by employees.

Angela Dunaway, who serves as president of NASHRM, told the 650 people in attendance that because most of the attendees worked for a company which qualified for the award, there was a good chance that their benefits and compensation are set to attract and retain top job candidates.

"And you know this because you periodically participate in surveys, such as the Chamber Wage Survey, to ensure the job, the location and the industry are in line with the markets that you serve," Dunaway said. "You listen to their feedback and input, because you know that one idea, one efficiency or one new process can spark a new product, a new service or something even bigger that can have a grand impact on your bottom line."

"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," said Danny Windham, the Chamber's vice chair for workforce.

Quantum Workplace measured and selected companies based on criteria such as team effectiveness, retention probability, trust with co-workers and senior leadership, manager effectiveness and feeling valued.

Once nominated, Quantum, specializing 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.

• Patricia McCarter



*Micro category winners (top to bottom):
QuantiTech, QTEC, Edward Jones,
Pinnacle Solutions, and Nesin Therapy.*



BEST PLACES TO WORK®

2012



Small category winners (clockwise from top left): Willbrook Solutions, Brockwell Technologies, Venturi, Maynard Cooper & Gale, and MTS.



Medium category winners (clockwise from right): PeopleTec, i3, AEGIS Technologies Group, Avion Solutions, and MTSI.



Large category winners (clockwise from left): Dynetics, Torch Technologies, Camber Corporation, INTUITIVE, and URS Corporation.



micro category (25-35 workers)

Winners: QuantiTech; QTEC; Edward Jones; Nesin Therapy Services; and Pinnacle Solutions

small category (36-70 workers)

Winners: Willbrook Solutions; Brockwell Technologies; Venturi; Manufacturing Technical Solutions (MTS); Maynard Cooper & Gale

medium category (71-200)

Winners: PeopleTec; Avion Solutions; Modern Technology Solutions, Inc. (MTSI); Integration Innovation Inc. (i3); AEGIS Technologies Group

large category (201+ workers)

Winners: Intuitive Research and Technology Corporation; Dynetics, Inc. URS Corporation; Torch Technologies; Camber Corporation

MVE MOST VALUABLE EMPLOYEE

micro category (25-35 workers)

Winners: Kelly Foshee, QTEC; Tara Williams, QuantiTech; Mark Pepper, CANVAS

small category (36-70 workers)

Winners: Kim Leach, Willbrook Solutions; Wendy Graves, Brockwell Technologies; Pam Cooper, Venturi

medium category (71-200)

Winners: Chris Hemphill, PeopleTec; Jennifer Franklin, Tec-Masters; Susie Vaughn, PeopleTec

large category (201+ workers)

Winners: Billy Cannon, URS; Sonya Tolliver, Intuitive Research and Technology Corporation; Jill Curtis, URS