Business Ledger honors 75 companies as "Best Places to Work in Illinois"

What do a small workforce management business in Oakbrook Terrace, a Downers Grove-based construction company, and a large Chicago law firm have in common?

Workers at all three are fully engaged with their employers thanks to a combination of open and collaborative management, generous benefit packages and additional perks that earned the companies top honors in the 12th annual Best Places to Work in Illinois awards.

The annual Best Places to Work in Illinois is a combination survey, study and awards ceremony established to identify the top places of employment in Illinois. The statewide competition is sponsored by the Daily Herald Business Ledger, in partnership with the Illinois Chamber and Commerce, MRA - The Management Associations, the Human Resources Management Association of Chicago, and the Small Business Advocacy Council.

The two-part selection process conducted by Best Companies Group of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, involves an evaluation of the nominated company’s workplace policies, practices and demographics, as well as an employee survey to measure workers’ experiences.

This year, 75 companies were honored at an award ceremony held Thursday evening at Abbington Distinctive Banquets in Glen Ellyn.

In congratulating the winners, Best Companies Group President Peter Burke said the businesses enjoyed a 91 percent employee engagement rate, well above the national average of 41 percent.

"You have successfully created an environment where employees love to come to work," Burke said. "And you want to know how we know that? Your employees told us so."

The No. 1 company in the small employer category (19-99 employees) is The Salem Group, an Oakbrook Terrace-based strategic staffing and workforce management company. Salem, a certified Woman-Owned Business Enterprise, provides world-class staff augmentation, strategic workforce solutions, web-enabled contingent/regular workforce procurement and management applications to better manage service delivery and talent supply chains.

The top company in the medium employer category (100-499 employees) is ARCO/Murray National Construction Company in Downers Grove. The company has continued to grow by having relatively few clients and providing them with turnkey design and construction services on a national basis.

Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLC of Chicago is the winning large employer (500-plus employees) for the third consecutive year. The full service, global 100 law firm has more than 760 attorneys.

Highlights of the winning companies will be featured in the June issue of the Daily Herald Business Ledger, which publishes on June 18.

Presenting sponsors for the 2018 program are B. Gunther & Company Inc., Focus Capital Advisors, Ryan LLC and Shaker Recruitment Marketing.

2018 Best Places to Work in Illinois:

**SMALL COMPANIES (19-99 EMPLOYEES)**

1. The Salem Group, Oakbrook Terrace

2. Radio Flyer, Chicago


4. Talman Consultants, LLC, Chicago

5. Geneva, Oak Brook

6. MotherC, Itasca

7. Balasa Dinverno Foltz LLC, Itasca

8. GForce Employment Professionals, Chicago

9. KRD – Kutchins Robbins & Diamond, Ltd. – CPAs, Schaumburg

10. Optimal Design Co., Arlington Heights

11. Adage Technologies, Chicago

12. American Bottoms, Saugatuck

13. Meeting Tomorrow, Chicago

14. Common Sense Solutions, Lombard

15. Mueller, Elgin

16. Lipschultz, Levin & Gray, LLC, Northbrook

17. Tiger Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning, & Electrical Services, Collinsville

18. Weiss and Company LLP, Glenview

19. Merit Solutions, Wheaton

20. Resource Brokerage, LLC, Schaumburg

21. Lextech Global Services, Downers Grove

22. Sterling Federal Bank, Sterling

23. JPoints, LLC, Oak Brook

24. SysteMax, Springfield

25. The Mx Group, Burr Ridge

26. TradeTec Skyline, Lombard

27. CDH, P.C., Itasca

28. Cristaux International, Chicago

29. Lobberg Construction, Palatine

30. Michael Silver, Skokie

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### MEDIUM COMPANIES (100-499 EMPLOYEES)
1. ARCO/Murray National Construction, Downers Grove
2. Skender Construction, Chicago
3. Assurance, Schaumburg
4. University of Illinois Community Credit Union, Champaign
5. MassMutual Midwest, Peoria
6. Solstice, Chicago
7. CompTIA, Downers Grove
8. LaSalle Network, Chicago
9. Clarity Insights, Chicago
10. Hanson Professional Services Inc., Springfield
11. Porte Brown LLC, Elk Grove Village
12. Proven IT, Tinley Park
13. McShane Construction Company, Rosemont
14. Sevan Multi-Site Solutions, Downers Grove
15. StratEx, Chicago
16. EMKay Inc., Itasca
17. Omron Automation- Americas, Hoffman Estates
18. IPMC, St. Charles
19. Domino Amjet, Inc., Gurnee
20. Wiley Education Services, Oak Brook
21. ESS Clean, Inc.
22. CSC Comptax, Deerfield
23. Redwood Logistics, Chicago
24. OSG USA, Inc., Bensenville

### LARGE COMPANIES (500-PLUS EMPLOYEES)
1. Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP, Chicago
2. Pariveda Solutions, Chicago
3. Pure Storage,
4. Edward Jones, St. Louis, Mo.
5. Inperity, Rosemont
6. Ryan, LLC, Downers Grove
7. Lockton Companies, LLC, Chicago
8. Amobee, Chicago
9. First Merchants Bank, Muncie, Ind.
10. Goldberg Segalla, Chicago
11. Crowe Horwath LLP, Chicago
12. Rittal North America LLC, Schaumburg
13. Total Quality Logistics, Chicago
14. Burns & McDonnell, Chicago
15. Sikich LLP, Naperville
16. Diageo, Plainfield
17. Next College Student Athlete, Chicago
18. NFA, Chicago
19. Advocate Health Care, Downers Grove
20. First Busey Corporation, Champaign
21. Littelfuse, Inc., Chicago