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

Richard Klicki

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.

Best Places to Work in IL 2018

A workplace analysis and competition

2018 Best Places to Work in Illinois:

SMALL COMPANIES (19-99 EMPLOYEES)

1. The Salem Group, Oakbrook Terrace
2. Radio Flyer, Chicago
3. Synergy Builders, Inc., W. Chicago
4. Talman Consultants, LLC, Chicago
5. Geneca, Oak Brook
6. MotherG, 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, Sauget
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. 3Points, 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. Loberg Construction, Palatine
30. MichaelSilver, Skokie

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2018 Best Places to Work in Illinois: *(continued)*

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. IPMG, St. Charles

19. Domino Amjet, Inc., Gurnee

20. Wiley Education Services, Oak Brook

21. ESS Clean, Inc.

22. CSC Corptax, 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. Insperity, 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