



LANDMARK

First Choice for Great People

June 2008: Landmark Recognized Among Best Staffing Firms in Wisconsin

HONORING THE BEST OF WISCONSIN BUSINESS

BY BOB WARDE, EDITORIAL DIRECTOR, *Corporate Report Wisconsin*.



Award Presentation

As filet mignon with bacon-wrapped scallops were being served at the Kalahari Resort and Conference Center in the Wisconsin Dells, almost 200 businesspeople - all finalists in the Best of Wisconsin Business Award voting - from across Wisconsin were on hand to learn whether their company had been voted the platinum winner in their respective categories. In all, 33 categories were featured.

This was the fourth year readers of Corporate Report Wisconsin have made their choices for the Best of Wisconsin Business.

The magazines readers voted online for two months and the number of votes cast this year was more than 40% higher than in 2007 voting.

Only one ballot was permitted from each e-mail address, but there are a lot of computers out there, so we kept an eye out for patterns of voting that looked like organized campaigns to stuff the ballot box.

Congratulations to all the winners and their employees for a job well done. If you get votes from our audience of CEO's, business owners and top executives who are tough customers in the business-to-business market, you have accomplished something.

Now we introduce the 2008 winners and tell you something about many of them.

BEST ACCOUNTING FIRM

Clifton Gunderson LLP Milwaukee HQ (3)

Schenck Business Solutions Appleton HQ (2)

Virchow Krause & Co., Madison (1)

Clifton Gunderson is the 13th largest public accounting firm in the nation, serving more than 35,000 business clients in 50 states and U.S. territories with more than 2,000 professional staff members. They are a national firm with a 45-year history of providing quality financial services in a broad spectrum of industries.

BEST ADVERTISING AGENCY

Stephan & Brady Inc., Madison (1)

Glowac+Harris+Madison, Madison (2)

Lindsay, Stone & Briggs, Madison (New)

Repeating in the grand award slot for the third time is Stephan & Brady, a full-service marketing communications firm based in Madison with a Chicago office. It has about 45 employees and works for clients that include Archer Daniels Midland (ADM), Church Mutual Insurance Co., National Honey Board, Miller Brewing Co., Virchow Krause & Co., and Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board. It was founded in 1952.

BEST AIRLINE FOR BUSINESS TRAVEL

Midwest Airlines, Milwaukee (1)

Northwest Airlines (2)

American Airlines (3)

BEST AIR CHARTER CO. - NEW CATEGORY

Heartland Aviation, Eau Claire

Maxair Inc., Appleton

Wisconsin Aviation, Watertown

Heartland Aviation Inc. is a full service provider of air charter, aircraft maintenance, and FBO services located in Eau Claire that serves the Wisconsin, Minneapolis, and Chicago markets.

BEST ARCHITECTURAL/DESIGN FIRM

HGA Architects & Engineers, Milwaukee (New)

Keller Inc., Kaukana (1)

Mead & Hunt Inc., Madison (New)

HGA is a full-service Architecture and Engineering firm with offices in Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Rochester, Los Angeles, Sacramento and San Francisco. Organized into interdisciplinary practice groups, they offer a balanced portfolio of planning, design and engineering services for healthcare; corporate; and arts, community and education clients. HGAs style of service and work reflects each client's philosophy, culture and vision.

BEST COMMERCIAL INTERIOR AND DESIGN FIRM - NEW CATEGORY

Plunkett Raysich Architects, Milwaukee

Emmons Business Interiors, Madison

HGA Architects & Engineers, Milwaukee

With offices in Milwaukee, Madison, and Northbrook, Illinois, Plunkett Raysich provides planning, architectural and design services, including master and land planning, facility branding, architectural, construction administration and design and interior services for the healthcare, education, corporate/commercial, long-term care, residential, hospitality, religion and civic industries.

BEST BUSINESS BANK

M&I Bank, Milwaukee HQ (1)

Associated Bank, Green Bay HQ (2)

Johnson Bank, Racine HQ (3)

Founded in 1847 in Milwaukee, M&I Bank has \$63.4 billion in assets, the most of any bank headquartered in Wisconsin, and 193 offices here, plus offices in several other states. M&I also provides trust and investment management services.

BEST CREDIT UNION

Community First Credit Union, Appleton (New)

UW Credit Union, Madison (1)

Landmark Credit Union, New Berlin (2)

Community First Credit Union was established in 1975 and has assets of more than \$1 billion. It has more than 77,621 members in 12 counties in Northeastern and Central Wisconsin.

BEST FINANCIAL SERVICES FIRM

Clifton Gunderson, LLP, Milwaukee HQ (1)

Virchow Krause & Co., Madison (3)

Robert W. Baird & Co., Milwaukee (New)

Clifton Gunderson Financial Services (CGFS) offers an objective solution to clients' financial planning and investment management needs. Comprised of three businesses, Clifton Gunderson Financial Advisors LLC, CG Brokerage LLC and CG Risk Management LLC CGFS professionals find the solution for any client need from the proper investment choices to the right college funding vehicle or the appropriate insurance policy.

BEST BUSINESS INSURANCE FIRM OR AGENCY

American Family Insurance, Madison (1)

Murphy Insurance Group, Waunakee (New)

State Farm Insurance, various (2)

American Family Insurance offers a full range of insurance and financial products. Headquartered in Madison, it has about 4,300 independent contractor agents in 18 states. It was founded in 1927.

BEST COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE HRM

First Weber Group Commercial Realtors, Madison (3)

NAI MLG Commercial, Brookfield (New)

Shorewest Realtors, Milwaukee (1)

BEST LAW FIRM

Foley & Lardner LLP, Milwaukee HQ (1)

DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C., Madison HQ (New)

Michael Best & Friedrich LLP, Milwaukee HQ (2)

Foley & Lardner is an international law firm providing interdisciplinary services. It offers a full range of corporate legal services. Its industry team approach blends services with first-hand experience to provide tailored solutions to its clients. The firm has seen tremendous growth, and today has offices in the U.S., Brussels, and Tokyo.

BEST ENGINEERING FIRM

Mead & Hunt Inc., Madison (3)

HGA Architects & Engineers, Milwaukee (New)

Yaggy Colby Associates Inc., Delafield (1)

Mead & Hunt Inc. provides professional consulting services in architecture, engineering, planning, and historical preservation to federal, state and local government agencies, and to utilities, contractors, and industrial and commercial clients. It was founded in 1900 and is employee-owned and privately-held. It has tripled in size in the past 10 years and now has annual billings of more than \$37 million. Mead & Hunt has about 350 employees in 14 offices across the USA with headquarters in Madison.

BEST GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Miron Construction Co. Inc., Neenah (New)

Keller Inc., Kaukana (1)

The Boldt Co., Appleton (2)

Miron Construction Co. Inc. posted 2007 sales of \$510 million and was recently ranked No. 1 on Wisconsin Builder's 'A List' of general contractors, and was also recognized by Inc. Magazine as one of America's fastest growing companies in 2007. The company has regional offices in Madison, Wausau and Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

BEST STAFFING FIRM

CFS Virchow Krause LLC, Madison (1)

Landmark Staffing Resources, Appleton (2)

QTI Group, Madison (New)

CFS Virchow Krause helps clients staff accounting and finance departments. The niche firm offers temporary employees for both short-term and long-term accounting and finance positions. And, the firm recruits and places direct-hire accounting professionals with capabilities at the executive, management, associate, and accounting clerical levels.

BEST JANITORIAL SERVICE - NEW CATEGORY

Jack's Maintenance, Neenah

Service Master Building Maintenance, Madison

Clean Power, Wauwatosa

Jack's Maintenance Service has been serving Northeast Wisconsin since 1952 and is locally owned and operated. Its team has grown to more than 300 professional cleaning specialists who serve the commercial, industrial, education, retail and new construction markets.

BEST TELECOMMUNICATIONS HRM - NEW CATEGORY

TDS Telecommunications Corp., Madison

AT&T

Verizon

TDS Telecommunications Corp. markets communications services to business and residential customers in 30 states through its TDS Telecom and TDS Metrocom brands. With more than 1.2 million access line equivalents in service, TDS Telecommunications Corp. connects customers to phone, broadband, and digital television service in hundreds of communities. Headquartered in Madison, TDS employs about 2,700 people.

BEST INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CO. - NEW CATEGORY

Clifton Gunderson Technology Services, Milwaukee

Heartland Business Systems, Neenah

CDW Berbee, Madison

Clifton Gunderson Technology Solutions provides business software, communications, networking and infrastructure, content management and storage, application delivery, and security to businesses in Wisconsin, Arizona, and Illinois.

BEST SCHOOL FOR ON-LINE EDUCATION - NEW CATEGORY

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater

Lakeland College, Sheboygan

Madison Area Technical College, Madison

The University of Wisconsin -Whitewater College of Business and Economics provides skills to enter the business world. UW-Whitewater has the largest MBA program in Wisconsin, and GetEducated.com has recognized its online MBA offerings as being among the top 25 programs nationally.

BEST SCHOOL FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION - NEW CATEGORY

University of Wisconsin-Madison

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Madison Area Technical College

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Continuing Education offers programs and services grounded in the intellectual and professional resources of UW-Madison's faculty and staff. It facilitates outreach educational opportunities in the schools and colleges, connecting the campus and a community of lifelong learners.

BEST CONFERENCE CENTER

Monona Terrace Community & Convention Center, Madison (1)

Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells (2)

Midwest Express Center, Milwaukee (3)

Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison is based on a Frank Lloyd Wright design and was completed in 1997. It offers a 40,000-sq.-ft. exhibition hall, a 14,000-sq.-ft. ballroom, a 320-seat lecture hall and 20 additional meeting rooms totaling 28,000-sq.-ft. A rooftop garden provides views of Lake Monona and the state Capitol.

BEST HOTEL FOR BUSINESS MEETINGS

Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells (1)

Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Appleton (2)

Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee (3)

Garnering the platinum award for the third year, the Kalahari offers the most meeting space of any hotel plus the many diversions of the Dells. But its central location is probably a major plus. The Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton came in second. This is a meeting favorite for those holding their event in the Fox River Valley. The top hotel in Milwaukee came in third in this category, and who can deny that Milwaukee's Pfister Hotel is the classiest spot in the state for a meeting?

BEST HOTEL FOR BUSINESS TRAVEL

Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells (1)

The Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee (2)

Hotel Metro, Milwaukee (New)

Built in 2000 and expanded in several phases over the years, Kalahari's Wisconsin Dells property brings "a world away" experience to travelers throughout the Midwest. With everything-under-one-roof convenience, Kalahari features 750 African-themed guest rooms and suites, a 100,000-sq.-ft. state-of-the-art convention center and Wisconsin's largest indoor waterpark at 125,000-sq.-ft.

BEST HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

Dean Health Insurance, Madison (1)

Physicians Plus Insurance Corp., Madison (2)

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, Waukesha (New)

Dean Health Insurance offers an entire range of fully-insured and self-insured products and are offered to the commercial, Medicare and Medicaid markets. Dean Health Plan has a combined member enrollment of 265,000 members and is the largest HMO in Wisconsin, operating since 1983.

BEST DENTAL INSURANCE PLAN

Delta Dental, Stevens Point (1)

Humana Dental, Waukesha (3)

Dental Blue/Anthem BlueCross BlueShield, Waukesha (2)

For the third year Delta Dental of Wisconsin received more votes than all other plans combined, which makes sense since Delta is the largest dental benefits provider in the state, covering more than 1 million employees and family members. It is part of Delta Dental Plans Association, 39 independent member companies operating in all 50 states.

BEST HOSPITAL/MEDICAL CENTER

UW Health, Madison (1)

Meriter Hospital, Madison (2)

St. Mary's Hospital (Madison) (3)

UW Health is a 489-bed academic care center. Several additional locations offer both primary and specialty care to patients in community settings throughout the Madison area. Operating since 1966 as a public authority, UW Health is the largest non-governmental employer in Madison. It is both independent and non-profit and receives no state funding except Medicaid reimbursement.

BEST HEALTH CLUB

Princeton Club, Madison (1)

Wisconsin Athletic Club, Milwaukee (3)

World Class Health, Fitness and Sports Performance, Waukesha (2)

BEST PERFORMING ARTS VENUE

Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, Appleton (2)

Overture Center for the Arts, Madison (1)

Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, Milwaukee (3)

BEST GOLF COURSE

University Ridge, Verona (3)

Whistling Straits, Haven (1)

Sentry World, Stevens Point (New)

BEST BUSINESS CELLULAR PHONE COMPANY

U.S. Cellular (1)

Verizon Wireless (3)

Alltel (New)

BEST BUSINESS APPAREL PROVIDER FOR WOMEN - NEW CATEGORY

Macy's

Ann Taylor

Lands' End

BEST BUSINESS APPAREL PROVIDER FOR MEN - NEW CATEGORY!

Men's Warehouse

Lands' End

Kohl's

MOST ADMIRER WISCONSIN COMPANY

Miron Construction Co., Appleton (New)

Miron Construction Co. Inc., Neenah, posted 2007 sales of \$510 million. Miron was recently ranked No. 1 on Wisconsin Builder's 'A List' of general contractors, and was also recognized by Inc. Magazine as one of America's fastest growing companies in 2007. Miron provides construction management, design-build, and general construction services to more than 12 markets. Miron sponsors various events, including Quarry Quest and the Fox Cities Marathon, and it supports numerous charitable organizations throughout the Midwest. The company has regional offices in Madison, Wausau and Cedar Rapids, Iowa,

Harley Davidson USA, Milwaukee (1)

Harley-Davidson Inc, Milwaukee, is a recognized pioneer and innovator, and its distinctive machines evoke passion among motorcycle enthusiasts. Added to that,

Harley-Davidson scores high on surveys of corporate reputation and worker satisfaction. This is the third year the company has been a finalist.

First Weber Group Realtors, Madison (New)

First Weber Group Realtors has more than 50 offices with more than 1,500 agents across Wisconsin serving both the residential and commercial markets. It has also established First Weber Group Foundation Inc. to enhance its commitment to strengthen communities through charitable contributions and volunteer leadership.