

Star Tribune Announces Winners of Eighth Annual “Top 150 Workplaces in Minnesota”

MINNEAPOLIS – June 26, 2017 – Star Tribune Media Co., Minnesota’s largest media company, today announced the winners of its eighth annual “Top 150 Workplaces in Minnesota” program, as determined by in-depth surveys of nearly 70,000 workers across the state.

Through independent research from [WorkplaceDynamics](#), 350 companies were evaluated by means of detailed questionnaires to analyze employee opinions and perspectives on numerous facets of their employers and workplaces. The surveys cover factors such as company values, leadership, organizational culture, compensation, benefits, and employee engagement.

In the large-company category (500-plus employees), **Bridge Realty** earned top honors. It’s the sixth award for the firm, and its third consecutive year in the Top 150. **Bell Bank**, the largest independently owned bank in the upper Midwest, took the No. 1 spot among midsized organizations (150–499 employees). **Alarm.com**, a security and remote-monitoring firm, claimed the top spot among firms of fewer than 150 employees.

These 150 companies—ranging from innovative 50-person firms and small nonprofit agencies to major corporations with thousands of employees—have demonstrated a commitment to progressive, employee-friendly environments that have earned the confidence, approval, and loyalty of their Minnesota workforces.

“Every day across the state, Minnesota employers are demonstrating their commitment to creating rewarding and meaningful workplaces for their talented and valuable employees,” said Mike Klingensmith, publisher and chief executive officer of Star Tribune Media Co. “The organizations that have earned their places on the Top 150 Workplaces ‘get it’—they know that the key to their success lies in the ability to attract and retain their skilled people by fostering environments that are vibrant, healthy, supportive, and flexible. We applaud their leadership in setting the standard for the Minnesota economy that we can all strive to live up to.”

This year’s list of Top 150 Workplaces in Minnesota also features awards in several special categories:

- **Leadership** – Dan Johnson, Mortenson Construction; Bret Weiss, WSB & Associates; and Fred Haberman, Haberman & Associates
- **Direction** – Keller Williams Realty
- **New Ideas** – ACR Homes
- **Doers** – Gentle Transitions
- **Meaningfulness** – Serenity Couture Salon & Spa
- **Ethics** – Tradition Companies
- **Clued-in Senior Management** – Edward Jones
- **Communication** – HelpSystems, LLC
- **Work/Life Flexibility** – ThreeBridge Solutions

- **Training** – Cardinal of Minnesota, Ltd.
- **Benefits** – The Specialty Mfg. Co.
- **Appreciation** – Discount Steel
- **Managers** – Pediatric Home Service

The Star Tribune Top Workplaces special section was published in the June 25, 2017, edition of *The Star Tribune*. The complete rankings, as well as features on many of the Top Workplaces, are available at www.StarTribune.com/topworkplaces.

About the Top 150 Workplaces Survey Methodology

For the eighth consecutive year, Star Tribune and WorkplaceDynamics set out to identify the Top 150 Workplaces in Minnesota. Company participation was voluntary. WorkplaceDynamics contacted 2,010 employers in Minnesota. To qualify, companies had to have a minimum of 50 employees and agree to allow their employees to take confidential surveys. A total of 350 companies participated and nearly 70,000 employees completed the survey. WorkplaceDynamics ranked employers within their size band based solely on employee survey responses. The top employers in each size band were selected for inclusion. There was no charge to companies or employees nor was any compensation paid to them.

About Star Tribune Media Company

Celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2017, Star Tribune Media Company LLC is a locally owned, award-winning media company serving Minnesota and the upper Midwest. With the fifth-largest Sunday and sixth-largest daily circulation newspaper in the U.S., the most-visited local website, a range of home-delivered advertising solutions, and a popular arts/entertainment publication and mobile app, Star Tribune reaches more consumers than any other Minnesota media brand.

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