



Best Places To Work Awards

For more information contact:
Jakki Trihey
Workforce Development, Inc.
507-529-2701

Gerry Hoeffner
Personnel Dynamics Consulting
772-979-5028

January 8, 2010

For Immediate Release:

Second Annual Best Places to Work in Southeast Minnesota

Five Local Organizations Recognized

Austin, MN: As job seekers look at career opportunities, they want to consider companies who have designed their organizations around retaining their top talent. Thanks to the Workforce Investment Board of Southeast Minnesota, job seekers now know who some of those companies are in our region. Seven companies representing Freeborn, Mower, Rice, Steele, Goodhue, Olmstead, Houston, Dodge, Fillmore and Wabasha Counties were recognized as the “Best Places to Work” in Southeast Minnesota. In the “100 and Under” employee category; **Alamco Wood Products, Inc.** of Albert Lea, **IBI Data** of Brownsdale and **Larson Allen, LLP** of Austin were recognized. In the “Over 100” employee category, **Hearth & Home Technologies** of Lake City, **Lou-Rich** of Albert Lea, **Riverland Community College**, and **The Bergquist Company** of Cannon Falls were recognized. This is the second year in a row that both **Alamco Wood Products, Inc.** and **Riverland Community College** have received this distinction.

The “Best Places to Work” awards program was a study commissioned by Workforce Development Inc. The purpose of the program was to recognize some of the best employers in our local area and provide vital information to companies about the practices they use to attract and retain employees. Each company participating was required to complete a 40-question survey that allowed their employment practices to be analyzed by the consulting firm of Personnel Dynamics Consulting of Florida. Every company participating in the survey will receive a detailed 19-page report detailing the

more-

Page 2 of 2
“Best Places to Work”

information on their company and the results of the survey. Those companies who are being recognized received a special award at the Best Places to Work Awards Banquet held at the Rochester International Event Center on January 7, 2010.

Data were measured on such parameters as: turnover, growth, employee training and development and promotion rates; employee evaluations and feedback; percentage of employee injuries; diversity of management; benefits offered; average paid days off and increase in pay.

Workforce Development, Inc., the Workforce Investment Board of Southeast Minnesota, is proud to bring the “Best Places to Work” program to Southeast Minnesota.

Pictured: Angie Ross and Greg Draeger, LarsonAllen, LLP

Beth Miller, Lou-Rich, Inc., with Randy Long, Workforce Development, Inc.

Pictured (Left to Right): Brad Doss, Ron Langrell, Beth Fondell, Eric Deters, Terry Leas, Todd Fjeldberg, Marijo Alexander, Miguel Garate

#####