

AWARD CATEGORIES 2016

Biggest Little WOW

Criteria: This award is designed for small or large companies which are in an exciting, unique, innovative line of business that contributes to the overall diversity of the business community in the region.

Description required: Describe the exciting, unique line of business that your company is in, what industry you serve, what your plans are for growth, and how your company contributes to the economic diversity in the region. Please share your vision of the impact your company is making on the region or in your industry.

Corporate Citizen Award (Large and Small company categories)

Criteria: Company which has made significant philanthropic contributions in money, employee volunteer hours or in-kind donations, to a charitable organization or organizations in the region, or any combination of the above.

Description required: Please provide a summary and breakdown if available, of the dollars, hours and/or value of in-kind donations during the award period. Please explain the impact your contributions are having in the community that might not occur without your support.

Employees First (Large and Small company categories)

Criteria: Recognizes companies that have invested in innovative programs to retain, develop, encourage and reward existing employees. This category is also open to companies who have implemented special programs that support the hiring of members of the National Guard, Reserve or Veterans.

Description required: Please provide a description of initiatives and programs implemented, to retain, develop, encourage and reward existing employees, or programs that support the hiring of members of the National Guard, Reserve or Veterans. Please explain the benefits of the programs you have implemented.

Founders Award (Large and Small company categories)

Criteria: This award is designed for primary companies that have been doing business in the region for more than 40 years under the same business name and are continuing to experience growth in employees, capital investment, market share or revenues within the past year.

Description Required: Please provide the year your company began its operation in the region and a general summary of your growth in employees, capital investment, market share and/or revenues over the past year. Please describe the significant contribution your company has made to the region and state in the 40 years+ that you have been in operation.

Leader in Sustainability Award (Large and Small company categories)

Criteria: Company manufactures a product or provides a service which enables their customers to conserve natural resources and/or reduce their carbon footprint. Also open to companies who have implemented resource saving and/or recycling initiatives.

Description required: If you manufacture a product, or provide a service which enables your customers to conserve natural resources, or have implemented your own resource saving and/or recycling initiative, please provide a description of your product or service and quantify the benefits of the product, service or initiative, resulting in a reduction in consumption or carbon footprint versus traditional practices.

Award Categories 2016-Continued

Manufacturing Excellence Award (Large and Small company categories)

Criteria: Manufacturer has implemented an innovative process improvement, program or upgrade that has improved efficiency, boosted production, reduced cost or delivery times, or has positively impacted overall performance in a measurable way.

Description required: Please provide a brief description of the innovative process improvement, program or upgrade that has been implemented with a description of the benefits as measured by improved efficiency, boosted production, reduced cost or delivery times or other measurable performance indicators. Please explain the industries you serve and the impact your company has on the industry or the region.

Partnership with Education Award

Criteria: Company has actively engaged with education partners (at any level K-20) to support and/or actively participate in programs, collaborate on curriculum, provide leadership on advisory councils, provide scholarships, funding or donations, post job openings on educational job boards, hire interns, participate in apprenticeship programs and/or create ongoing, productive relationships with education/training providers in the region.

Description required: Please describe how your company has actively engaged with education partners to support and/or actively participate in programs, collaborate on curriculum, provide leadership on advisory councils, provide scholarships, funding or donations, post job openings on educational job boards, hire interns, participate in apprenticeship programs and/or create ongoing, productive relationships with education/training providers in the region. Please include details of your engagement and the benefits to you as the employer and to the educational institution.

Community Partner Award

Criteria: This award is designed for public sector community partners. The Entity/Agency must have demonstrated innovative programs and active engagement as a community partner to EDAWN in a way that supports business attraction, retention, workforce development, or entrepreneurial development. Decision will be based on overall contribution to EDAWN's achievement of its strategic objectives.

Description Required: Please provide a summary of innovative programs and ways that you have actively engaged as a community partner to EDAWN in support of business attraction, retention, workforce development, or entrepreneurial development and how you have helped EDAWN to achieve its strategic objectives.

Company of the Year (Large and Small business categories)

Criteria: Company which has documented exemplary performance in multiple categories and stands out as an overall “shining star” based on all of the categories noted above and your overall contribution to the region and State.

Description Required: Please provide descriptions as to how your company stands out in multiple categories listed above using the requirements noted for each category, and provide any additional documentation related to your positive impact and contribution to the region and State that you believe qualify you as the Company of the Year.

President’s Award

Criteria: This award is an optional category at the CEO’s discretion, to be utilized when a local private sector entity has helped EDAWN to make a difference in the community in a unique and measurable way. Decision will be based on the entity’s contribution to an EDAWN department, program or event.