

2009 Best Places to Work - Surviving Tough Economic Times



Geotechnical and Environmental Services, Inc. received a great honor on October 9 when the company received the Southern Nevada Human Resource Association's Best Places to Work Award earning 1st place in the Small Business Category for 2009.

Entering its eighth year, the "Best Places To Work" awards program recognizes top Southern Nevada employers for innovative human resource practices and programs. Acknowledging the downturn, Southern Nevada Human Resource Association searched for outstanding workplaces in Southern Nevada - organizations that are weathering the storm and continuing to place their employees at the top of the list of priorities.

This awards program promotes and distinguishes a company as an employer of choice in our community. Winners receive a prestigious award suitable for display, collateral material for recruiting and advertising, and the award presentation at an entertaining luncheon ceremony.

To be considered for an award, employees and their employers must follow a two-step process: First, an employee nominates their company as a Best Place to Work. Second, the employer (typically the HR Director and/or President) fills out the awards entry form which describes the company's work environment, employee benefits and other factors which lead the company to be one of the "Best Places to Work." A panel of judges comprised of the Board of Directors from the Southern Nevada or other chapters anonymously judge the applications and award 1st and 2nd place for each category: Small, Medium, and Large Business.

Some of the unique contributions by GES (and its sister drilling company, Eagle Drilling Services, LLC) to the work environment and community during the past year included:

- New UTO Benefit
- Ground Source Heat Exchange (GSHE)
- Colorful Dashboard
- Performance Management 1-2-1 Coaching and Mentoring
- Grant to Hire and Promote Additional Job Positions
- Contributions to the New "Extreme Makeover – Home Edition" Home

GES has weathered the economic storm by capitalizing on employee suggestions and fine tuning a financial Dashboard. Geotechnical and environmental engineering is an industry that suffered this past year with the huge cutbacks in all forms of development and construction. This year has required the company to cash out some dividends of good will and appreciation accrued over the past decade of developing a supportive work culture. GES and Eagle Drilling work together to form enduring companies where the best people want to work . . . and more importantly where the staff defines the optimistic culture and what makes a great place to work, and they are thrilled to have received the 1st place award.