

News Release

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Wisconsin Family Business of the Year Award Draws 29 Nominations

MADISON, WI APRIL 10, 2007: An award honoring family businesses in Wisconsin has drawn nominations from across the state. Twenty-nine companies are competing for the **Wisconsin Family Business of the Year Award** in three categories. Awards will be given to Small (1-49 employees), Medium (50-99) and Large (100+) companies.

Nominees represent first through fifth generation companies and include a photographer, a realtor, an athletic club, coffee shops, bus services, construction companies, manufacturers and a pet crematory.

Company Name	City
The Boelter Companies, Inc.	Milwaukee
Carter Consulting, Inc.	Milwaukee
CG Schmidt, Inc.	Milwaukee
Chase Lumber & Fuel Company	Sun Prairie
Conrad Schmitt Studios, Inc.	New Berlin
DRM Industries Corporation	Lake Delton
Education Consultants of Madison, LLC	Madison
Elmstar Electric Corporation	Kaukauna
Faithful Companions Pet Crematory	Green Bay
Glorioso Brothers	Milwaukee
Great Big Pictures, Inc.	Madison
Great Lakes Custom Tool Manufacturing, Inc.	Peshtigo
Haen Meat Packing, Inc.	Kaukauna
Hunzinger Construction Company	Brookfield
J.J. Keller & Associates, Inc.	Neenah
Jack Schroeder and Associates, Inc.	Green Bay
Kobussen Buses, Ltd.	Kaukauna
Konz Wood Products	Appleton
K-tech Kleening Systems	Weston
Mocha Moment	Janesville
Modern Business Machines	Appleton
Muddy Moose Espresso	Cottage Grove

Photography by J.D.	Clintonville
Prairie Athletic Club	Sun Prairie
R. Sabee Company, LLC	Appleton
Riteway Bus Service, Inc.	Richfield
Schrewe & Associates, Inc.	Waukesha
Shorewest, REALTORS	Brookfield
World Class Wire & Cable, Inc.	Waukesha

The winners will be selected by a panel of independent judges based on criteria including: positive links between family and business, contribution to community and industry, and innovative practices. The winners will be announced at a banquet on May 17th at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton.

According to the Family Firm Institute, family-owned businesses comprise 80 to 90% of all businesses in North America. Contrary to most expectations, family businesses are not limited to small, “mom and pop” operations. In the United States, some 35% of Fortune 500 companies are family-owned, while 60% of publicly-listed companies are family-controlled. Their economic influence is enormous, producing an estimated 50% of the nation’s gross domestic product. They generate 60% of the country’s employment and 78% of all new job creation.

The award program was developed by Smith & Gesteland, a Madison-based CPA and consulting firm. Other co-sponsors are Associated Bank, and the law firm DeWitt Ross & Stevens. All three companies are founding sponsors of the Family Business Center and have a focus of serving family businesses.

For more information on the program you can call Neil Fauerbach at 608-836-7500, or visit www.familybusinessaward.com.

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