

Business Insurance® **2010** **BEST** places to **work**

BI names best employers in industry

Rodd Zolkos

An in-depth evaluation has produced a list of 54 insurance industry companies to be recognized in this year's *Business Insurance* Best Places to Work in Insurance program.

Best Places to Work in Insurance is a joint effort of *Business Insurance* and the Harrisburg, Pa.-based Best Companies Group, and was open to all publicly or privately held property/casualty insurers, group life/health insurers, agents and brokers, reinsurers and third-party administrators with at least 25 employees working in the United States and serving the commercial insurance market.

This is the second year for the Best Places to Work in Insurance program, and the 54 companies on the 2010 list include 17 repeat honorees. Companies honored this year range in size from 25 employees to 8,830.

The companies identified alphabetically in this issue are to be celebrated as an elite group of employers that have created high-quality workplaces that encourage employees to thrive in a work environment they can love.

Best Companies Group, an independent workplace excellence research firm that manages other regional and industry programs in the United States and Canada, managed the registration process, conducted the surveys, evaluated the data over several months and ultimately selected the firms that made the cut.

The assessment was a two-part process. Part 1—responsible for 75% of a company's score—involved a confidential 76-question Employee Engagement & Satisfaction Survey, which was used to evaluate employees' workplace experience and the company culture. The second part of the assessment, responsible for the remaining 25% of a company's score, was an employer questionnaire, which collected information about each company's benefit programs, policies, practices and other general information.

Using the two sets of data, BCG experts conducted an in-depth analysis of each company's strengths and opportunities.

To make the Best Places to Work in Insurance list, each company had to demonstrate a minimum standard of excellence, and the companies honored this

year "are indeed innovators and the ones other companies use as benchmarks," said Peter B. Burke, president of Best Companies Group.

BCG's work also involves comparative analysis of the companies making the list. In a special report in the Oct. 4 issue of *Business Insurance*, we'll reveal how the companies ranked and take a closer look at the 54 companies honored.

Business Insurance also will recognize the companies and celebrate their achievement at an event featuring an educational program and awards luncheon in September in New York.

Participation in the program was free, though participating companies can purchase the "BCG Employee Feedback Report" summarizing the data collected in the employee survey process. In addition to the employee opinion data, the report also includes transcribed employee-written comments as well as the insurance industry benchmarking data from the participating companies.

It's not too early to start thinking about the 2011 Best Places to Work in Insurance program. To sign up to be notified when information is available about next year's program, go to www.bestplacestoworkins.com.

2010 Best Places to Work in Insurance

Company	Headquarters	Category
Accident Fund Insurance Co. of America	Lansing, Mich.	Property/Casualty Insurers
The Addis Group L.L.C.	King of Prussia, Pa.	Agents/Brokers
AdvoCare Group	Cleveland	Group Life/Health Insurers
AH&T Insurance	Leesburg, Va.	Agents/Brokers
Allianz Global Corporate & Specialty Americas	Chicago	Property/Casualty Insurers
American Safety Insurance Services Inc.	Atlanta	Property/Casualty Insurers
ARAG Insurance Co.	Des Moines, Iowa	Property/Casualty Insurers
Associated Agencies Inc.	Rolling Meadows, Ill.	Agents/Brokers
Assurance Agency	Schaumburg, Ill.	Agents/Brokers
Berkley Mid-Atlantic Group L.L.C.	Glen Allen, Va.	Property/Casualty Insurers
Capstone Brokerage Inc.	Las Vegas	Agents/Brokers
Carl Warren & Co.	Placentia, Calif.	Third-Party Administrators
CompWest Insurance Co.	San Francisco	Property/Casualty Insurers
Discovery Benefits Inc.	Fargo, N.D.	Third-Party Administrators
Dubraski & Associates L.L.C.	San Diego	Agents/Brokers
Edgewood Partners Insurance Center	San Francisco	Agents/Brokers
Equitable Life & Casualty Insurance Co.	Salt Lake City	Group Life/Health Insurers
Equity Risk Partners	San Francisco	Agents/Brokers
Falvey Cargo Underwriting Ltd.	North Kingstown, R.I.	Property/Casualty Insurers
FCCI Insurance Group	Sarasota, Fla.	Property/Casualty Insurers
Gilsbar Inc.	Covington, La.	Third-Party Administrators
The Hanover Insurance Group Inc.	Worcester, Mass.	Property/Casualty Insurers
Hylant Group Inc.	Toledo, Ohio	Agents/Brokers
The IMA Financial Group Inc.	Wichita, Kan.	Agents/Brokers
The Insurance Exchange Inc.	Rockville, Md.	Agents/Brokers
Insurance Office of America	Longwood, Fla.	Agents/Brokers
Island Insurance Co. Ltd.	Honolulu	Property/Casualty Insurers
J. Smith Lanier & Co.	West Point, Ga.	Agents/Brokers
Kapnick Insurance Group	Southfield, Mich.	Agents/Brokers
Kentucky Employers' Mutual Insurance	Lexington, Ky.	Property/Casualty Insurers
Lockton Cos. L.L.C.	Kansas City, Mo.	Agents/Brokers

M3 Insurance Solutions Inc.	Madison, Wis.	Agents/Brokers
Maiden Reinsurance Co.	Mount Laurel, N.J.	Reinsurers
McGohan Brabender Inc.	Dayton, Ohio	Agents/Brokers
McGraw Wentworth	Troy, Mich.	Agents/Brokers
Mesirow Insurance Services Inc.	Chicago	Agents/Brokers
The MGIS Cos. Inc.	Salt Lake City	Third-Party Administrators
Penn National Insurance	Harrisburg, Pa.	Property/Casualty Insurers
Philadelphia Insurance Cos.	Bala Cynwyd, Pa.	Property/Casualty Insurers
Plexus Groupe L.L.C.	Deer Park, Ill.	Agents/Brokers
Poms & Associates Insurance Brokers Inc.	Woodland Hills, Calif.	Agents/Brokers
Precept Group	Irvine, Calif.	Agents/Brokers
Propel Insurance	Tacoma, Wash.	Agents/Brokers
The Redwoods Group	Morrisville, N.C.	Agents/Brokers
Ross & Yerger Insurance Inc.	Jackson, Miss.	Agents/Brokers
RSUI Group Inc.	Atlanta	Property/Casualty Insurers
Scirocco Group	Hasbrouck Heights, N.J.	Agents/Brokers
ScripNet Inc.	Las Vegas	Third-Party Administrators
Seubert & Associates Inc.	Pittsburgh	Agents/Brokers
SilverStone Group	Omaha, Neb.	Agents/Brokers
TIP National Inc.	Oklahoma City	Property/Casualty Insurers
United Heartland	Milwaukee	Property/Casualty Insurers
Unum Group	Chattanooga, Tenn.	Group Life/Health Insurers
West Bend Mutual Insurance Co.	West Bend, Wis.	Property/Casualty Insurers