Rotary Clubs of Lincoln | Salute to Business

2020 Salute to Business Nominees:

Whitehead Oil Company
Sandhills Global
TEMCO, Inc.
Sampson Construction

Read company information below. Click here to vote.

Whitehead Oil Company (WOC), recognized often as U-Stop, is a business with a strong focus on community involvement since being founded by M. E. "Bud" Whitehead in 1950. Mark Whitehead, Bud's son, transformed the company from traditional service stations to convenience stores beginning in 1982. The company has grown to employ over 350 at locations throughout Lincoln. In a challenging retail market U-Stop has distinguished itself by providing superior service, extraordinary community support, and innovative product development.

WOC was instrumental in planning and supporting retail development at the 27th & I-80 interchange which fueled rapid economic development along the North 27th Street corridor. Mindful of the environment, WOC worked with the Lower Platte South NRD to preserve area wetlands. These efforts led to WOC being the first company ever to be awarded the Master Conservationist Award.

WOC gives back to Lincoln. Most recently, WOC started the "U-Stop Kicks It Back to the Community" program that donates change and $.02/gallon for all gallons sold over a three-day weekend each month to a charity. This benevolent program sends over $90,000 to community charities.

For more about Whitehead Oil Company to go www.u-stop.com

Sandhills Global. Tom and Rhonda Peed moved their small publishing company from Iowa to Lincoln in 1985. Since then Sandhills Publishing, recently updated to Sandhills Global, has become a prominent Lincoln business and philanthropy source. It's publishing business operates around the clock producing over 1.75 million pages per hour for stitched books distributed to over 58,000 locations. Recently, Sandhills has invested in high technology infrastructure to serve both print and online customer needs worldwide—hence, the name change to Sandhills Global. Business expansion has led to employee growth from around 300 a decade ago to over 1200 today.

A Lincoln Journal-Star article described Sandhills giving as being based on "generosity and humility". Tom and Rhonda Peed have focused the company's benevolent resources on children-based programs. YMCA youth programs and capital campaigns have benefited greatly from Sandhills generosity, as have Lincoln Children's Zoo, Lincoln Children's Museum, and Junior Achievement. Sandhills generosity reaches others also. In 2016 and 2017 Tom and Rhonda sponsored chartered planes for Vietnam veterans flights to Washington D.C., and later the Women's Veteran Honor flight and Purple Heart Flight. Sandhills matches employee donations to local non-profits that reach over a dozen local programs.

To read more about Sandhills Global go to www.sandhills.com.

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TMCO Inc. Roland Temme founded TMCO in 1974 to specialize in one-stop, concept-to-completion metal manufacturing services. It started in a 842 square foot shack without indoor plumbing. It has steadily grown over the years while maintaining its presence in Lincoln. In 1985 it broke $1 million in sales. It is noted for annual open houses that started in 2000. By 2016 TMCO exceeded $16.5 million in sales with 140 employees. Employees and community service are its hallmark.

TMCO initiated the Tots Program to provide preferred enrollment for preschool children of parents in need. As Lincoln's population continues to diversify TMCO has used the Tots Program to assist spouses of employees interested in becoming classroom assistants or are seeking employment in childcare.

Employee care is another TMCO hallmark. TMCO's wellness program ranges from giving out free fruit and vegetable servings to organizing weight loss challenges and bootcamps. Its 401K savings program matches employee contributions dollar-for-dollar up to 10 percent.

TMCO funds the Food Market at Park Middle School through the Lincoln Food Bank along with TEAMMATES and Junior Achievement partnerships. TMCO received the 2018 Kiwanis Distinguished Service Award and 2016 Action in Faith Award along with other honors and recognitions.

To read more about TMCO go www.TMCOinc.com

Sampson Construction has served Lincoln and the Midwest with superior construction design and management for 67 years. With projects in ten states and five offices in the Midwest, Sampson has accomplished major projects such as Cornhusker Bank Corporate Center in East Lincoln, the Nebraska State Capitol HVAC Replacement and Window Repair (on going), the Kawasaki Rail Car addition, and Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home. John Sampson, company president, is clear about the value that nearly 350 Sampson employees bring to projects they manage and the Lincoln community they serve through volunteer work.

Of the many community involvement opportunities that Sampson employees support, the Lincoln Marathon is perhaps their favorite. The over 11,000 runners need over 2.500 volunteers over the 26.2-mile course. But employees are involved in so much more including leadership roles on TEAMMATES, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, Lincoln Community Foundation, Bryan Health Foundation, Madonna Foundation, and Nebraska Wesleyan University.

To learn more about Sampson Construction go to www.sampson-construction.com

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