

News Release

BEST
Workplaces
for CommutersSM
Sacramento
Region

**EMBARGOED UNTIL:
OCTOBER 18, 2006**

**CONTACT: Rebecca Thornton Sloan
(916) 321-9000**

REGION'S BEST WORKPLACES FOR COMMUTERS ANNOUNCED

Recognizes employers offering outstanding commuter benefits.

Sacramento, CA (October 18, 2006)—Today the Sacramento region announces the annual list of Best Workplaces for CommutersSM. The list highlights 66 employers offering superior commuter benefits to employees, thereby committing to reducing traffic and air pollution and improving health and quality of life for commuters.

The list is coordinated by Sacramento business, transportation and environmental organizations in addition to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

“Commuting can lead to stressed-out employees and a stressed environment,” said EPA Administrator Stephen L. Johnson. “These leading companies are relieving that commuter strain, improving the quality of life for their employees, and protecting the quality of the environment for their communities.”

The list is being released in conjunction with EPA’s Best Workplaces for CommutersSM from the Fortune 500 companies. Four Fortune 500 companies with worksites in our region are on the Sacramento list: Apple Computer, Hewlett-Packard, Intel and Northrup Gruman. Seven other regions across the country are also releasing lists today.

Best Workplaces for CommutersSM participating employers must offer their employees superior commuting benefits such as employer provided transit passes, vanpool subsidies, bike commuter facilities, onsite day care, and telework programs. To qualify, organizations must provide:

- A central point of contact for information, who actively informs employees of commuter benefits available.
- Access to a regional or employer-provided Guaranteed/Emergency Ride Home program.
- At least one primary commuter benefit, which can include a monthly transit/vanpool pass subsidy, cash in lieu of free parking, or a significant telecommuting program.

(MORE)

THE AIR DISTRICTS
of the SACRAMENTO
REGION

El Dorado County
Air Pollution Control District

Feather River
Air Quality Management District

Placer County
Air Quality Management District

Sacramento Metropolitan
Air Quality Management District

Yolo-Solano
Air Quality Management District



Regional Rideshare Partnership

Sacramento Area Council of Governments • Caltrans • City of Roseville • El Dorado County Transportation Commission • 50 Corridor Transportation Management Association • McClellan Park TMA • North Natomas TMA • Placer County Transportation Planning Agency • Point West TMA • Power Inn Business and Transportation Association • Sacramento TMA • South Natomas TMA • Yolo TMA



- At least three supporting commuter benefits, such as carpool/vanpool incentives, lockers/showers for bikers or walkers, incentives for living near work, or onsite amenities such as day care or dry cleaning.

“These organizations are doing their part to reduce air pollution and traffic congestion by offering excellent commuter benefits to their employees,” said Heather Fargo, SACOG Board Chair and Sacramento Mayor. “This program gives commuters options in how they get to work, and is right in line with SACOG’s Blueprint, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Regional Rideshare Program, all encouraging more walk, bike and transit trips.”

About the Best Workplaces for CommutersSM

The Best Workplaces for CommutersSM is a free and voluntary program, recognizing employers nationwide that offer a comprehensive package of commuter benefits. Participating organizations must meet a *National Standard of Excellence* as defined by program criteria.

The Best Workplaces for CommutersSM improve employee job satisfaction and save money from reduced payroll taxes. Employees enjoy reduced stress and delays caused by driving alone to work and save money by using employer-provided commuter benefits and reducing use of personal vehicles. Visit www.bwc.gov for more information.

###