



## **The ESOP Association — New South Chapter** **2012 Awards Nomination Form**

### ***ATTENTION: ALL COMPANIES DEDICATED TO EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP!***

**NOMINATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE NEW SOUTH CHAPTER  
“ESOP COMPANY OF THE YEAR” AND “EMPLOYEE OWNER OF THE YEAR”**

#### **TAKING THE TIME TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION CAN PAY OFF. RECOGNITION INCLUDES:**

- The New South Chapter nomination for the national competition.
- A free registration to the National Conference and Awards Banquet in Washington, DC in May, plus a \$100 Gift Certificate to help defray travel costs.
- An Awards Plaque to display at your company.
- Recognition at New South Chapter events and the Tri-Chapter Conference.
- Publicity in the New South Chapter Newsletter and ESOP Report.
- A news release sent out from The ESOP Association to promote the award winner.

***DON'T DELAY - THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS February 15, 2012***

#### **CRITERIA FOR ESOP COMPANY OF THE YEAR AND EMPLOYEE OWNER OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

##### **ESOP COMPANY OF THE YEAR:**

**ESOP Company of the Year** has a commitment to employee ownership as shown by its:

- Involvement with the ESOP Association and its programs,
- Communication with employees;
- Commitment to the Vision of The ESOP Association that endorses employee participation, wealth creation, and individual dignity and worth.

The company should be financially solvent and have more than one or two years of ESOP sponsorship. It is not necessary that the company have any one style of management. More importantly, employees should feel a sense of ownership and/or that the ESOP is important to the company and to the employees.

##### **EMPLOYEE OWNER OF THE YEAR: *Nominate one of your employees!***

**The Employee Owner of the Year** should be an employee below the level of senior management. Despite the lack of a firm rule stating the employee owner has to be an hourly or non-management employee, these two terms can be general guides for the selection process.

The individual should be active in the employee ownership activities of the company and/or activities of The ESOP Association where appropriate. Examples are:

- serving on the ESOP committee or on an employee advisory committee,
- contributing to a company publication,
- helping with Employee Ownership Month (“EOM”) observances,
- leading fellow employees to a better understanding of the ESOP
- attending chapter meetings, and/or helping with chapter meetings or activities,
- writing a letter to an elected official,
- attending Association meetings such as the employee owner retreat, national conference.

The overwhelming criteria should revolve around the person’s overall contribution as a ‘good’ citizen in the company where he or she works.

**Award Nomination Form**  
**The ESOP Association — New South Chapter**

**Company of the Year**

Company Name:
Contact Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email:

*This company should be recognized as the New South Chapter's ESOP Company of the Year because:*


Use attachments if you wish. **Do not exceed 3 pages of attachments.**

**Employee Owner of the Year**

Company Name:
Contact Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email:

*This person should be recognized as the New South Chapter's Employee Owner of the Year because:*


Use attachments if you wish. **Do not exceed 3 pages of attachments.**

Please submit nomination to: Donna Walseth, Chapter Administrator  
906 97<sup>th</sup> Lane NE  
Blaine, MN 55434  
[dwalseth@esopexec.org](mailto:dwalseth@esopexec.org)

**Nomination deadline: February 15, 2012**

## **NOW IS THE TIME TO DOCUMENT FOR AACE!**

The ESOP Association sponsors a competition known as **AACE** for companies who communicate their ESOPs to their respective employee owners. Many companies never really focus on the AACE competition until it is time to send in their entries.

**The fact is that NOW is when you should be planning your AACE entry for the 2012 judging. The deadline is usually March 1, with judging in mid to late March, but the work should begin now. Don't delay!**

Start documenting everything you do to communicate the ESOP. Get a little crazy with your camera-photos always help to "dress up" and clarify an entry. Some excellent tips on getting started and organizing your entry can be found on the ESOP Association website at:

[http://www.esopassociation.org/resources/resources\\_AACE\\_tips.asp](http://www.esopassociation.org/resources/resources_AACE_tips.asp).

[Read the 2011 AACE Award Brochure](#) always being mindful that there may be minor changes in the program and/or the deadlines. The 2012 brochure will be posted early in January of 2012.

All entries will be displayed at The ESOP Association's Annual Conference in May in Washington D.C. Winners will be honored at the Awards Banquet during the conference.

**Questions concerning the AACE Award program can be directed to Pat Barnes, AACE Program Manager, 304-216-2409 or 304-876-3624, or [patbarnesart@gmail.com](mailto:patbarnesart@gmail.com).**

## **EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP MONTH (EOM) POSTER CONTEST**

The poster contest deadline is also usually late February/early March. Details will be posted on The ESOP Association Website. [View the 2011 Poster Contest rules](#) and [samples of winning posters](#), all available on the website.

**Questions concerning the Poster contest may be directed to Gwen Rosenthal at 1-866-366-3832 or [gwenn@esopassociation.org](mailto:gwenn@esopassociation.org).**

### **Judging Guidelines:**

- Good employee-owner education of EOM
- Respect for the contributions of employee-owners
- Integration of the concepts of both employee ownership as well as the celebration of EOM into the fabric of the poster design.
- Encouragement of ownership attitudes in the poster design.
- Clear, simple design.
- Creative use of ideas.
- Good graphic design.

### **The Prizes:**

- One complimentary registration to the annual conference in Washington D.C.
- One complimentary ticket to the awards banquet.
- Company name appears on the poster as the designer of the winning poster.
- Certificate of achievement.
- Publicity in The ESOP Report