



News

(202) 463-5682 (888) 249-NEWS press@uschamber.com

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 30, 2007

Contact: John Reid/ Rebecca Wilder

Washington Business Wins U.S. Chamber of Commerce Award

Guidant Financial Group is a Blue Ribbon Small Business

WASHINGTON, DC—Guidant Financial Group in Bellevue, WA, has been honored today with a U.S. Chamber of Commerce Blue Ribbon Small Business Award. The award was given in recognition of the company's dedication to excellence in several categories.

“Winners of the Small Business Blue Ribbon Award have served their employees, customers, and communities with a consistent dedication that exemplifies America's spirit of enterprise,” said Tom Donohue, Chamber president and CEO. “Small businesses are the backbone of America's economy, representing more than 99% of all employers, creating three-fourths of all new jobs, and accounting for more than one-half of the nation's gross domestic product.”

The Small Business Blue Ribbon Award, sponsored by Microsoft adCenter, was designed to honor businesses that showed excellence in a variety of selection criteria, including financial performance and business history, staff training and motivation, community involvement, customer service, and business planning.

Winners of the award from around the country will be honored at America's Small Business Summit 2007. The award is part of the Chamber's Small Business of the Year selection process. One Blue Ribbon Small Business will be selected from each of seven regions as a finalist for the U.S. Chamber Small Business of the Year Award. The finalists will be announced on March 30.

“The Blue Ribbon Small Business award enables us to recognize the hard work and tireless efforts of America's small businesses,” said Donohue. “Guidant Financial Group is a shining example of how a business can make a difference in its community.”

The U.S. Chamber is the world's largest business federation representing more than 3 million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region.