

DAVENPORT GROUP IS ONE OF INC. MAGAZINE'S
BEST WORKPLACES 2017

Davenport Group is one of the highest-scoring businesses with standout employee engagement; Inc. Best Workplaces featured in June 2017 issue of Inc. magazine

Saint Paul, MN (June 1, 2017) – Davenport Group has been named one of Inc. magazine's Best Workplaces for 2017, the publication's second annual ranking in the fast-growing private company sector.

Hitting newsstands today in the June 2017 issue, and as part of a prominent Inc.com feature, the list is the result of a wide-ranging and comprehensive measurement of private American companies who have created exceptional workplaces through vibrant cultures, deep employee engagement, and stellar benefits. Out of thousands of applicants, Inc. singled out just over 200 winning companies. Built in partnership with employee engagement and work culture experts Quantum Workplace of Omaha, Nebraska, Inc.'s Best Workplaces list is a magnifying glass on how innovative companies can truly raise the bar in hiring and retaining the best talent.

What does it take to become a company that workers want to be part of? Inc. magazine says it's more than good pay and good perks – it's also about having a clear purpose, a sense of humor, and leadership that makes the two work together.

Building a great culture has been a key focus since we hired our first employee almost 15 years ago. Our focus was to build a workplace that allowed our team to work hard, play hard and still have a life outside of work. Sonia St. Charles, CEO and co-founder of Davenport Group says, "We work hard to hire the right people, provide the training and support for them to be successful and then empower them to do whatever is necessary to take care of our customers. If you treat employees like your best customer, that will ensure that your customers are happy. Happy employees mean happy customers."

The 2017 Inc. Best Workplaces Awards assessed applicants on the basis of benefits offered and employees' responses to a unique, 30-question survey fielded by each of the applying companies. Responses were evaluated by the research team at Quantum Workplace. For its results to qualify, each company had to achieve a statistically significant response rate based on employee count. Survey scores account for employer size to level the playing field between small and large businesses. All companies had to have minimum of 10 employees and to be U.S.-based, privately held, and independent – that is, not subsidiaries or divisions of other companies.

While researching the entries, Inc. and Quantum saw distinct themes develop:

- Strong company cultures breed stunning individual and team performance.

- Workers at the best companies don't view their employers as sugar daddies. They aren't mesmerized by whatever giveaways seem to be the latest fad—be it gourmet lunches or beer fridges.
- When employees feel valued by their organization, they are far more likely to be engaged. This single factor proved to be one of the largest drivers of employee engagement.
- Davenport Group offers unlimited vacation, allowing employees to manage their work and still have the flexibility to regulate their personal lives without having to conform to a preset number of allotted vacation days. Unlimited vacation policies convey trust, making employees—not their managers—responsible for ensuring their tasks and projects still get done regardless of the time away. The focus is on results and not how many hours or days are worked.
- As a virtual business, Davenport Group schedules meetings twice a year to bring the entire company together to foster deeper relationships among their geographically dispersed employees. These meetings are an investment in the health of the organization and reinforce the cultural values of teamwork and building strong relationships.

“By introducing an employee survey into this year’s Best Workplaces selection process, we’ve really raised the bar. Companies that don’t score at the very top of their peer group don’t make the cut. So, our hats are off to the winners. They all excelled at engaging their workers, making them feel appreciated, and aligning them behind a mission. And remember, that’s not just our opinion: The employees told us that themselves.”

About Davenport Group

Davenport Group designs and implements IT solutions that help organizations proactively manage their data — today and into the future. Specializing in enterprise data storage and virtual infrastructure, Davenport Group is an end-to-end solutions provider serving mid-market customers nationwide. Davenport Group is a certified woman-owned business (WBENC). Visit www.davenportgroup.com to learn more.

About Inc. Media

Founded in 1979 and acquired in 2005 by Mansueto Ventures, Inc. is the only major brand dedicated exclusively to owners and managers of growing private companies, with the aim to deliver real solutions for today's innovative company builders. Winner of Advertising Age's "The A-List" in January 2015, and the National Magazine Award for General Excellence in both 2014 and 2012. Total monthly audience reach for the brand has grown significantly from 2,000,000 in 2010 to over 40,000,000 today. For more information, visit <http://www.inc.com/>.

About Quantum Workplace

Quantum Workplace is an HR technology company that serves organizations through employee engagement surveys, action-planning tools, exit surveys, peer-to-peer recognition, performance evaluations, goal tracking, and leadership assessment. For more information, visit www.quantumworkplace.com.