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Women engineers also give high marks to leading aerospace company

For the second year in a row, Boeing [NYSE: BA] has been named the No. 1 employer by engineering and science college students according to the 2003 Universum Undergraduate Survey.

The Universum study, produced annually since 1999, polled more than 9,000 undergraduate students at 86 leading universities from December 2002 through February. In a repeat of the survey's 2002 results, engineering and science students named Boeing their "ideal employer."

"We're honored to be recognized by engineering and science college students throughout the United States," said Norm Bartlett, vice president of Employee Services, Boeing Shared Services Group. "Boeing really is a great place to work, with meaningful work and challenging opportunities."

Boeing also was ranked the No. 2 company in a reader survey conducted by Women Engineer Magazine, based on both preferable employer and best working environment for women. Lockheed Martin was named the No. 1 company in the Women Engineer reader survey. Bartlett noted that the high marks on the two surveys reflect Boeing's efforts to attract and retain a diverse and involved team of employees.

"People truly are our strength and competitive advantage," Bartlett said. "While parts of our business have been adversely affected by the economic downturn, we remain committed to being a global employer of choice."

Following Boeing in Universum's "ideal employer" top 10 list for engineering and science students were: 3M, BMW, General Electric, Central Intelligence Agency, Pfizer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Walt Disney, Abbott Laboratories and Johnson & Johnson. According to Universum's CEO Claudia Tattanelli-Skeini, about 3,000 more students participated in this year's survey as compared to last year.

In a related survey, Boeing was recognized as the top supporter of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, according to a recent independent survey of HBCU deans. Career Communications Group, or CCG, publisher of U.S. Black Engineer & Information Technology magazine, conducted that survey.

Universum Communications' three main areas of expertise are research, advisory services and media. The Philadelphia-based company's research department closely monitors national and international human resource trends relating to attracting, recruiting and retaining top talent, and conducts annual nationwide quantitative surveys of undergraduate, MBA and ethnically diverse students at more than 300 leading universities worldwide.

Women Engineer Magazine, launched in 1979, is offered at no charge to qualified women engineering, computer-science, and information-technology students and professionals seeking to find employment and advance in their careers. Women Engineer is one of seven magazines published by Equal Opportunity Publications.

The Boeing Company, with headquarters in Chicago, is the leading aerospace company in the world and the United States' leading exporter. The company has an extensive global reach with customers in 145 countries, employees in more than 70 countries and operations in 38 U.S. states as well as Canada and Australia. Boeing Shared Services Group is responsible for the company's recruiting and staffing requirements, and other employee services. Employment, intern and graduate information is available here.

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