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Three Workplace Awards in One Week; FONA Named *Fortune's* #2 Manufacturing Workplace in the Nation

Company receives a national *Great Place to Work* award & two *Best & Brightest* awards in same week

Geneva, IL. September 19, 2019 – FONA International received three prestigious awards this week, including recognition in *Fortune* magazine as the #2 medium-sized workplace in the nation for manufacturing & production.

Fortune & Great Place to Work

FONA, family-owned creator and manufacturer of complete flavor solutions, was again one of the country's best workplaces by *Fortune* magazine and consulting firm *Great Place to Work*.

The Great Place to Work recognition is based on employees' anonymous responses to an extensive survey about their levels of trust, pride and camaraderie at work. The independent [review](#) by Great Place to Work reveals themes about FONA's stated culture of growth and openness: 97% of employees say FONA is a great place to work. The same percentage says that the service FONA delivers to customers is excellent and that the company is welcoming. The full list is [here](#).

“Manufacturing & Production companies in the US are facing dynamic forces shaping industry market conditions - such as a potential trade war and skilled talent shortages,” said Michael C. Bush, CEO of Great Place to Work. “Amidst this escalated insecurity, organizations like FONA stand out from the crowd, overcoming competitive conditions through intentionally growing their businesses by creating great places to work for all.”

Best & Brightest Elite

The national recognition isn't the only reason FONA is celebrating this week. On Monday, the company also received a *Best & Brightest* Elite Award for Compensation, Benefits & Employee Solutions. This is the 14th year that FONA was recognized with a Chicago Elite award. This



week FONA also was named a Best & Brightest “Icon” – recognizing the company’s longevity and continual presence among elite workplaces.

“It’s an incredible time at FONA.” said Jeremy Thompson, Chief Operating Officer, “How rewarding, to receive national recognition from Fortune, and right on the heels of an Elite Best & Brightest award. Wow! What a testament to our wonderful people and the incredible, growth-focused culture we create together every day.”

Employee Engagement Results

In addition to these recognition, FONA just received the results of its biannual Employee Engagement survey. Conducted by Management Resources Association (MRA), the survey showed that 99% of employees are “engaged” with 70% of employees being fully engaged in the company. (The national norm for full engagement is 36%.)

FONA is among the highest engagement scores we see,” said Kristie Haase SPHR, Employee Engagement Survey Manager from MRA. “I have never seen such a unified sentiment from employees inside an organization regarding the strength, clarity and transparency of communication. This is their secret sauce.”

About FONA International, Inc.

Founded more than 30 years ago, FONA International creates and produces flavors for many of the largest food, beverage, nutritional companies in the world. It offers flavor solutions for the confection, grain, beverage, performance nutrition, and emerging markets from its state-of-the-art, 33-acre campus in Geneva, IL. FONA’s seven core values drive it to pursue excellence and foster incredible partnerships. More than just great flavors – FONA provides complete market solutions. For more recent news, visit: <https://www.fona.com/category/fona-news/>

About Great Place to Work

Great Place to Work based its ranking on a data-driven methodology applied to anonymous Trust Index™ survey responses from more than 112,000 employees at Great Place to Work-Certified organizations. To learn more about Great Place to Work Certification and recognition on Best Workplaces lists published with FORTUNE, visit Greatplacetowork.com.

About Best & Brightest

The Best and Brightest Companies to Work For competition identifies and honors organizations that display a commitment to excellence in their human resource practices and employee enrichment. Organizations are assessed based on categories such as communication, work-life balance, employee education, diversity, recognition, retention and more. All participating companies receive a complimentary assessment report and benefits throughout the year. Winning companies are invited to celebrate in one of our many event regions.