



Applications for the 2013 U.S. Disability Matters awards now available – Apply Today!

MENDHAM, NJ (7/24/12) -- Springboard Consulting LLC announces its Seventh Annual U.S. Disability Matters Awards Banquet and Conference.

“We are so very pleased and honored that Florida Blue, a Blue Cross and Blue Shield plan, a past recipient of the Disabilities Matters Workforce Award, is hosting the expanded 2013 conference and awards gala,” said Nadine Vogel, President of Springboard Consulting LLC. The two full conference days taking place on Tuesday & Wednesday, April 16-17th, will be held at Florida Blue’s corporate headquarters in Jacksonville, Florida with the Awards Banquet & Dinner to be held the evening of April 16th at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort and Spa.

The event will officially begin with a welcome reception on Monday evening, April 15th, hosted by Adecco North America, another past recipient of the Disability Matters Diversity Award.

Joining our Hosts, to date the 2013 sponsors are:

PLATINUM

Northrop Grumman Corporation

GOLD

KPMG, LLP

Marsh & McLennan Companies

SILVER

EMC Corporation

Procter & Gamble

BRONZE

CSX Corporation

PwC

Time Warner Cable, Inc.

“The disability community is the largest and fastest growing minority segment in the world, in the U.S., surpassing the Hispanic population by 5%”, says Nadine Vogel, President of Springboard Consulting, the Producer of this most important event. Vogel adds, “Meeting the needs of this most important segment through workforce, workplace, and marketplace initiatives is a business imperative, one that is most certainly understood by our Host, Florida Blue, as seen by their ongoing commitment to and initiatives for employees with disabilities.

As in prior years, the Disability Matters conference will feature executive presenters from corporate America, the federal government, academia and the non-profit sector, sharing their experiences and best practices on how to support and market to this large, loyal segment of the population. In response to overwhelming demand, this years’ event will be expanded to two full days of content so that we can address more topics and do a deeper dive on the most critical issues impacting disability in today’s corporate arena.

Honorees will be selected in the following categories: *Workforce, Workplace & Marketplace* as well as the *Disability Matters Employer of Choice Award*, given to a company that has taken their award-winning initiatives to a level where there is complete synergy between mission and achievement. *The Disability Champion Award* is open to individuals within an organization at the Executive, Management and Associate levels. For more information on different awards visit <http://www.consultspringboard.com/2011/dm-award-descriptions-and-methodology/>.

Companies interested in becoming a sponsor, purchasing tickets, and/or applying for one of these prestigious awards, which honor outstanding commitment to the disabled community in the areas of Workforce, Workplace and/or Marketplace, will find additional information including prior year honorees by visiting <http://www.consultspringboard.com/2011/about-disability-matters-united-states/>.

For additional information contact: Jill Frankel: 973-813-7260 x106 or Jill@consultspringboard.com

Florida Blue is a leader in Florida's health industry. Since 1944, our members have counted on us to continuously develop better solutions that promote more affordable health care across the state. Our mission is central to all that we do. Helping people in their pursuit of health reflects Florida Blue's commitment to ensuring affordable plans, providing personal support for health and wellness and building strong communities that enable health and wellness for all Floridians. Florida Blue is a not-for-profit, policyholder-owned, tax-paying mutual company. Headquartered in Jacksonville, Fla., it is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, an association of independent Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies. For more information, visit floridablue.com.