

## BECOME ONE OF THE TRIANGLE REGION'S **BEST WORKPLACES FOR COMMUTERS<sup>SM</sup>!**

Everyday in the Triangle, commuting takes more time, adds more pollution, causes more congestion, creates more stress – and threatens the quality of life our region enjoys. Fortunately, there is a growing number of employers who are facing the challenges presented by traffic gridlock and poor air quality head on and dramatically improving the way their employees get to and from work. An elite group of those employers have received designation as Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> through a new program that recognizes employers for their leadership and excellence in reducing the negative impacts of commuting on our community.

The designation is achieved by meeting a *National Standard of Excellence* in the offering of commuter benefits and for participation in the Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> program. Through a nationwide network of partners and in communities like the Triangle, local organizations help employers create customized solutions for their employees' commuting challenges. Community support often includes technical assistance from transit and rideshare agencies, vanpool providers, Transportation Management Associations (TMAs), transit voucher companies, and others.

In addition to the public recognition and competitive edge employers may gain when they become Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup>, the program helps businesses improve their bottom line while bettering the quality of life for commuters and the communities in which they live. Studies show employers that offer commuter benefits improve employee recruiting and retention, increase employee job satisfaction, and save money on parking and federal taxes.

In return for offering cutting-edge commuter benefits, employers can reap the following important benefits:

**Attract and retain employees.** Commuter benefits help employers attract and retain the best employees and also increase worker productivity by helping employees arrive at work relaxed and on time.

**Solve parking challenges and cost.** Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> reduce the demand for limited or expensive parking.

**Enjoy financial savings.** Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> can enjoy reduced parking expenses, facility costs, and payroll taxes. Likewise, employees can receive income and payroll tax benefits as well as reduced parking costs.

**Reduce environmental impacts.** Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> demonstrate environmental excellence by reducing gasoline demand, greenhouse gas emissions, and air pollution.

**Exhibit leadership and corporate citizenship.** Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> distinguish themselves as competitive benefits leaders and a leading player in preserving or improving the quality of life of their community.

**Improve national security.** Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> help reduce dependence on foreign sources of energy by helping commuters reduce fuel consumption.

### The following Triangle employers have been designated as **Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup>:**

- **Cisco Systems, Inc.**, Research Triangle Park, NC (Wake County)
- **National Institute of Environmental Health and Sciences (NIEHS)**, Research Triangle Park, NC (Durham County)
- **The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**, NC (Orange County)
- **Triangle Transit Authority**, Research Triangle Park, NC (Durham County)
- **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**, Research Triangle Park, NC (Durham County)

**Organizing Committee for the Triangle Region's Best Workplaces for Commuters<sup>SM</sup> List 2004**  
SmartCommute@RTP, EPA-RTP, North Carolina Division of Air Quality, Triangle Transit Authority,  
Greater Triangle Regional Council, Regional Transportation Alliance

If your organization is interested in supporting the Best Workplaces designation, contact:  
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