



Sodexo ranked first on the 2010 *DiversityInc* Top 50 Companies for Diversity list

Issy-les-Moulineaux, France, March 30, 2010 – Sodexo, world leader in Quality of Daily Life solutions, was ranked number one in the United States for diversity and inclusion on the 2010 *DiversityInc* Top 50 Companies for Diversity list.

A total of 449 companies were evaluated for this year's Top 50 list, whose selection criteria was: human capital, CEO commitment, supplier diversity, and corporate and organizational communications.

This marks the fifth consecutive year that Sodexo has been recognized on *DiversityInc's* Top 50 list, and last year the company went from 12th to 6th position.

"We're particularly proud of this award in recognition of Sodexo's long standing effort to promote diversity and inclusion", said Sodexo CEO Michel Landel. "The initiatives implemented in the USA have enabled us to better meet the needs of our clients, because the diversity of our teams is the *sine qua non* of our creativity and performance. Our commitment and success in promoting diversity and inclusion help to differentiate us from our competitors, which directly contributes to our long-term business success."

DiversityInc awarded Sodexo first place because of the company's ability to implement, measure, and assess strong internal diversity initiatives. The magazine cited Sodexo's "Spirit of Mentoring" program as an example for all organizations of a "focused, practical, and extremely comprehensive mentoring effort."

In other awards announced by *DiversityInc* for 2010, Sodexo ranked:

- First in the employment of executive women
- First for the recruitment and retention of minority employees
- Second in the employment of Latin-Americans
- Third in the employment of Afro-Americans
- Tenth for the employment of people with disabilities
- Fifth for its efforts to encourage global Diversity, especially with the company's creation in 2009 of Sodexo Women's International Forum for *talent* (SWIFt), a group of 20 women executives who work on concrete initiatives to promote a greater proportion of women managers throughout the Group.

In the United States, where Sodexo has a workforce of 120,000 in over 6,000 sites, the diversity initiative has increased the minority management population by 15%, and the proportion of Sodexo's female employees is 8% higher than in 2004.

The *DiversityInc* Top 50 Companies for Diversity list will be published in the magazine's June issue.

About Sodexo

Sodexo, world leader in Quality of Daily Life Solutions

Quality of Life plays an important role in the progress of individuals and the performance of organizations. Based on this conviction, Sodexo is the strategic partner for companies and institutions that place a premium on performance and well-being, as it has since Pierre Bellon founded the company in 1966. Sharing the same passion for service, Sodexo's 380,000 employees, in 80 countries design, manage and deliver an unrivaled range of On-site Service Solutions and Motivation Solutions. Sodexo has created a new form of service business that contributes to the economic, social and environmental development of the communities, regions and countries in which it operates and to the fulfillment of its employees.

Group Key Figures (as of August 31, 2009)

14.7 billion euro consolidated revenue
380,000 employees
22nd largest employer worldwide
80 countries
33,900 sites
50 million consumers served daily
7,0 billion euro market capitalization (as of March 30, 2010)

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