



## For Immediate Release

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## New North Businesses Among “Best Small & Medium Companies to Work For in America”

**Badger Mining Corp., ACUITY Insurance Named to Annual List**

**NEW NORTH, June 26, 2007** – Two New North companies were named among the Great Place to Work Institute’s 2007 list of the “Best Small & Medium Companies to Work For in America,” which was released on Monday.

For the second year in a row, Badger Mining Corporation (BMC), headquartered in Berlin, was named the best small company to work for in the country, and ACUITY, based in Sheboygan, was named in the top 5 for medium-sized companies.

“It’s no secret that some of the nation’s best companies call the New North home,” said Jerry Murphy, Executive Director of the New North, Inc. “Whether the rankings are based on annual revenue, safest working environments, or best practices, you’re certain to find a Northeast Wisconsin company among the country’s elite.”

ACUITY, a regional property and casualty insurance company, has been among the top 5 “Best Medium Companies to Work For” since the Great Place to Work Institute (GPWI) began publishing their list in 2004. The company operates in fifteen states, manages \$2 billion in assets, and employs approximately 850 people nationwide.

BMC, a privately-held, family-owned manufacturer of industrial minerals, was singled out for praise by the GPWI for the second consecutive year:

“At BMC... the care with which leaders support associates is indisputable. From the ‘as needed’ philosophy of taking as much time off as necessary to recover from an illness or address other personal situations, to the Wellness Team’s comprehensive offering of programs to ensure the physical well-being of associates, their T.E.A.M mindset – ‘Together, Management and Employees’ – shines through.”

The rankings for small (50-250 employees) and medium (251-999) companies were based largely on employee responses to a survey developed by the GPWI, in addition to materials submitted by the company and information gathered from other reputable sources.

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“The New North is proud to have exceptional companies like Badger Mining Corp. and ACUITY based in the region,” Murphy said. “These businesses truly exemplify why the New North is the best place in the country to live, work, and raise a family.”

To see a complete version of the list, please visit <http://www.greatplacetowork.com/best/list-sme-2007.htm>.

For more information on BMC and ACUITY, please visit <http://www.badgerminingcorp.com/> and <http://www.acuity.com>.

New North, Inc. is a regional collaboration effort focused on promoting regional cooperation and economic development in an 18-county region in Northeast Wisconsin. The 18 counties included in the New North are Outagamie, Winnebago, Calumet, Waupaca, Brown, Shawano, Oconto, Marinette, Door, Kewaunee, Sheboygan, Manitowoc, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Florence, Menominee, and Waushara. To find out more information about New North, Inc., please visit our website at [www.thenewnorth.com](http://www.thenewnorth.com).

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