

Presenter: Kathy Adams

Award: CEO/President/Managing Partner – Small Co. –

Recipient: Marci McCarthy – Tech Exec Networks

As a sponsor this year, it is my distinct pleasure to present the award in the CEO MEDIUM & SMALL Company category, which includes companies with less than 1000 employees.

While all of the nominations were outstanding, there was one that stood out to the advisors as exceptional. This year's award recipient is --- Marci McCarthy.

Marci McCarthy is the founder and CEO of Tech Exec Networks, a networking and marketing organization for technology and security executives. This is third time she had been nominated for a Leadership Character Award.

Her nomination describes her as someone who “forms meaningful relationships with her staff, clients, and others in the industry, and takes a humanistic, transparent approach to working with and helping others.” She is someone anyone would want to work *with* as a client and *for* as an employee.

She maintains integrity and accountability at all times, even when it might result in an uncomfortable conversation or the loss of a client. According to her nominator, “Marci believes it is critical to operate with integrity...and to manage expectations with customers and executives about what you can and cannot do.” She is forthright, protective of clients’ interests, and strives to deliver what she has promised and more. According to her nominator, “When there is a disagreement, Marci embodies a mix of self-esteem, self-control, sensitivity, tolerance, fairness, and generosity needed to be able to agree to disagree and to be open to learning...” Under her leadership, the organization has achieved success through reputation, referral, and repeat business...a true testament to her leadership character.

To employees she is empowering and understanding, respecting their personal time and allowing flexible schedules, while also creating an environment in which each individual understands that they are appreciated and contribute to the company's success.

To colleagues, she is a confidante, mentor, and sounding board, always giving her time to help others succeed.

She has received a congressional citation for her work that led to greater cyberspace protection over the last decade, and her list of contributions to the community ranges from raising money for the American Red Cross to help victims of Hurricane Sandy to serving on the Board of Directors for TechBridge.

Please join me in congratulating this remarkable leader of character –Marci McCarthy - our 2013 Leadership Character Award winner in the CEO Medium and Small Company category.