

Press Release to Announce 2012 Employee Owner of the Year Illinois ESOP Award
Bounthanh Saysongkham, Bimba Manufacturing, The Illinois Chapter of The ESOP Association 2012 Employee Owner of the Year Award Winner



Illinois ESOP Chapter President Art Miller Congratulates Award Winner Boun Saysongkham, Bimba, Manufacturing

March 7, 2012, Champaign, Illinois – Bounthanh (Boun) Saysongkham Machine Operator, Bimba Manufacturing Company, has been selected by The ESOP Association’s Illinois Chapter as the winner of the 2012 Employee Owner of the Year. The award was announced at the Chapter’s Annual Meeting on March 7, 2012 at the iHotel and Conference Center in Champaign, Illinois. The ESOP Association is the national trade association for companies with employee stock ownership plans (ESOP) and the leading voice in America for employee ownership. The Illinois Chapter represents 83 companies in the State of Illinois.

Bimba Manufacturing, a 100% employee owned company headquartered in University Park, Illinois, is a forward-thinking innovator of actuation, fluid power, and motion control technology. Boun has been with the company since 1998 and currently serves as a machine operator. Boun is a great voice for employee ownership playing a very active role in planning, managing, and participating in the company’s ESOP events and initiatives. Boun currently serves as Chair of the ESOP Committee and will take a non-voting seat on the Board in 2012.

“Boun is a model employee that makes Bimba a better place. He really understands and appreciates the value of employee ownership, and his great attitude and behavior are very contagious with other employees.”, said Scott Szafasz, Director of Finance at Bimba Manufacturing.

Boun will compete against a competitive field of ESOP Employee Owner of the Year Award recipients from 17 other state and regional Chapters for the title “National Employee Owner of the Year.” The winner of this prestigious award will be announced at The ESOP Association’s 35th Annual Conference in Washington, DC in May, 2012.

The core cause of The ESOP Association is the belief that employee ownership will improve American competitiveness, increase productivity through greater employee participation, and strengthen our free enterprise economy.

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