

**Press Release to Announce Chapter ESOP Company of the Year Award Winner
Parksite Awarded 2012 Company of the Year by The Illinois Chapter of
The ESOP Association**



Judi Lauria, Connector, Buyer/Planner; Dick Hill, Director of Human Resources;
Kathy Kurinsky, Connector, Human Resources Generalist; Elizabeth Wheeler, Connector, Corporate Administrator

March 7, 2012, Champaign, Illinois – Parksite, Inc. has been named the 2012 ESOP Company of the Year by the Illinois Chapter of The ESOP Association. 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.

Headquartered in Batavia, Illinois, Parksite is a 100% employee owned sales, marketing and distribution organization offering specialized products to the construction industry. Parksite is a leading building materials distributor with major accounts for nationally branded specialty DuPont® products, specialty lumber products and decorative surfaces. The original Parksite Inc. emerged in 1971 selling Olympic Stain®. In 1989, the two founders of Parksite gave the employees control of the organization and became a 75% employee owned ESOP. The remaining 25% of the business was sold to the ESOP trust in 1998, making Parksite a 100% employee owned company.

“Parksite is very active in the ESOP community and we are delighted to honor them with this recognition”, said Art Miller, Illinois Chapter President. “Parksite practices a strong commitment to employee ownership through an active employee communication committee, and has been and continues to be a major participant in The ESOP Association at both the Chapter and National levels.”

“We are very pleased and proud to have Parksite selected by the Illinois Chapter of The ESOP Association as ESOP Company of the Year because we believe so strongly in the power of employee ownership,” commented Dick Hill, Director of Human Resources at Parksite.

Parksite will compete against a competitive field of ESOP Companies of the Year from The ESOP Association’s 17 other state and regional Chapters for the title “National ESOP Company 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, 2011.

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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