

All Makes Office Equipment to Award \$25,000 Office Makeover

By Sara Cline
The Midtown "O" Staff Writer

In celebration of their 90th anniversary, All Makes Office Equipment Co. is giving back to the community by awarding a \$25,000 office makeover to an Omaha area non-profit organization. The contest sponsors are office furniture manufacturers Allsteel[®] and HON[®]. The finalists are: Angels Among Us, Child Saving Institute, Make-A-Wish, Omaha Food Bank, and Outlook Nebraska.

"Since non-profits must focus their resources on fulfilling their mission, they can sometimes miss an opportunity to use their work environment as a tool for attracting and soliciting funds for their cause," said Jeff Kavich, All Makes' president/CEO. "This program is our opportunity to reward a deserving non-profit organization."

"We opened the contest to any 501 C (3) non-profit in the Omaha metro area," said Jaylene Eilenstine, All Makes' director of marketing. "And we invited the public to make nominations through the

www.allmakes.com Web site. Pre-finalist nominations were accepted from mid-September 2007 to mid-October 2007, and nearly 11,000 votes were received. Our Web site company tallied the nominations and submitted the results to our panel of five local judges." The outside judges include an architect design specifier, a magazine publisher, and three facilities managers.

The winner, to be announced in December, will be selected by another round

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of public online voting and an assessment by the judges. Votes are accepted from Nov. 12, 2007 through Dec. 12, 2007. The winner will receive a remodeled workspace that supports individual work style, improves productivity and communicates the organization's mission.

The \$25,000 Office Makeover program represents All Makes' core mission of promoting good design in the business community. A long-time supporter of local charitable organizations, All Makes encourages non-profits to also embrace quality design in their operations.

"My great-grandfather started this company in 1918 under the name All Makes Typewriter Company," Kavich said. "We started in the machine business and then during the war, my grandfather bought a lot of used surplus from the Air Force base, and that led us into new furniture sales. In the 1950s we changed the name to All Makes Office Equipment Company. We have showrooms in Omaha and Lincoln, as well as a sales branch in Urbandale, Iowa and 8,000 sq. ft. of our current Omaha showroom has just been redesigned."

All Makes' services include new and used office furniture, design, project management, move management, delivery and installation. "In addition to furniture, we also offer photocopiers, time and attendance machines, and fax machines," Kavich said.

With customers in all 50 states, Canada and overseas, All Makes is proud to have been ranked as a Top 50 Office Furniture Dealer nationally. "We have customers based in Omaha that are growing internationally. We can manage projects in other countries as easily as we can in Omaha. In many cases, our project managers will go to the job site to ensure the product is received properly

and to monitor installation," Kavich said.

"Approximately 70 percent of family businesses fail after the second generation, and about 90 percent fail after the third," Kavich said. "My sister and I are the fourth generation for our company. Our focus and beliefs are the same now as when the business started: we want to provide the right product with the right design at the best price."

To vote for a non-profit finalist or to learn more about All Makes, visit www.allmakes.com. The company is located at 2558 Farnam St. in Omaha and their phone number is 341-2413. [M]