



Bench International

News Release

Bench International Earns Certification from Prestigious Women's Business Enterprise National Council

Premier Global Life Sciences Executive Recruiting Firm's Focus on Diversity in the Workplace Is Recognized

Los Angeles, CA (October 21, 2008) – Bench International, premier executive recruiting firm serving the global life sciences sector, has earned official membership in, and certification from, the prestigious Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC). To qualify for certification, a company must be at least 51 percent owned and controlled by a woman or group of women.

Bench's Chairman and CEO, Dee Dee DeMan-Williams, founded the firm in 1974, and has overseen its growth and progress continuously since that time.

WBENC is a major advocate for women business enterprises (WBEs) as suppliers and vendors to the nation's corporations. Founded in 1997, WBENC is also the nation's leading third-party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women, with WBENC certification accepted by more than 1,000 corporations, as well as government entities at the state, local and Federal levels. WBENC includes 244 major corporate members along with its nearly 8,000 certified WBEs.

DeMan-Williams said, "We are delighted with the recognition that the Council has given us, and are proud to be included in the ranks of such outstanding women business enterprises. From the outset at Bench, we have dedicated ourselves to the recruitment and retention of top senior talent among women and ethnically diverse populations. Since 2001, for example, 33 percent of the pharmaceutical and biotech executives that we placed have come from diverse backgrounds."

About Bench International

Based in Los Angeles, California, Bench International specializes exclusively in providing senior talent to the global life sciences sector. Bench's multinational team of accomplished recruitment professionals, each equipped with long-standing in-depth life science industry experience, has successfully met client needs for executive leadership since the firm's founding in 1974. In addition to its Los Angeles headquarters facility, Bench maintains offices in New York, the United Kingdom and Switzerland. For more information, visit www.benchinternational.com

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