

PowerNet Global Named Goering Center Family and Private Business Awards Finalist

One of only 22 in its category, PowerNet Global was selected amongst 360 nominations.

CINCINNATI, OH – October 17, 2012 – <u>PowerNet Global</u>, veteran of the telecommunications industry for more than 20 years and well known for strong business ethics, integrity, and reliability, has been chosen as a finalist in the Goering Center Family and Private Business 2012 awards program.

To honor the enormous positive contributions made by family and privately owned companies, both large and small, the University of Cincinnati and the Goering Center for Family & Private Business presents the annual Tri-State Family and Private Business of the Year Awards to qualifying local businesses each year. In 2012, 360 family and private business were nominated and altogether, 77 finalists were named.

Applicants were considered by an independent panel of judges on several of the 10 best practices of family and private businesses as defined by the Goering Center. Judges chose the top companies in two divisions; those businesses owned by two or more family members and those privately owned by an individual or non-related persons. Each division has three categories: those that have been in business for fewer than 20 years, those in business from 20 to 49 years, and those with 50 or more years of service. PowerNet Global was chosen as one of 22 finalists in the Private Businesses (20-49 years) category.

Family and privately owned businesses have a tremendous impact on the nation's total economic climate. In fact, they account for more than half the total employment, new job creation and Gross Domestic Product. This award recognizes companies or individuals who have made a long-term community impact, through their commitment to philanthropy, community service, growth of employment, and community image.

"PowerNet Global is an organization that just seems to get better with age and it's a great honor to receive this acknowledgement in the same year we're celebrating 20 years of business," said PowerNet Global President & CEO Bernie Stevens. "To be recognized alongside so many of our peers is an honor in itself and I also want to thank the University of Cincinnati, the Goering Center, and everyone else that makes this award program possible."

About PowerNet Global

Celebrating 20 years as a leader in the industry and achievement as a multi-award winning company, <u>PowerNet Global</u> is a premier provider of high-quality voice, data, SIP, and managed communications services to commercial and residential customers nationwide. Headquartered in Cincinnati, OH, PowerNet Global has achieved consistent growth by developing and marketing an expanding array of competitive products and maintaining a clear focus on delivering unrivaled service to its partners and customers.

About Goering Center, University of Cincinnati

The <u>Goering Center for Family & Private Business</u>, at the University of Cincinnati, is a leading educational and informational resource center for family and closely held businesses. Membership in the Goering Center benefits businesses of every size and industry. With the intent of accelerating business growth and sustaining family business harmony, the Goering Center can help businesses address the unique and critical issues facing firms of all sizes.

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