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College Station company rates high as place to work

By **LAURA HENSLEY**
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A [College Station](#) based training and development company recently was chosen as the second best place to work in the state, according to Texas Monthly magazine.

The Flippen Group founded by Flip and Susan Flippen in 1988 provides leadership training to companies, sports teams and educators around the world. The company was ranked No. 2 in the "60 Best Companies to Work for in Texas" - a list compiled by Texas Monthly, the Texas Association of Business and the Texas State Council of the Society for Human Resource Management. The segment is featured as an advertisement in the magazine.

Another College Station-based company, K2Share, which also was co-founded by Flip Flippen, was ranked No. 28 on the list. In addition, the Web-based computer technology solutions company was chosen as one of the "50 Best Companies to Work for in Texas" by Texas Monthly in 2005.

Each of the companies chosen were selected by completing a two-part survey which evaluated company policies and procedures. Those selected include for-profit and non-profit companies with 25 employees or more who work in the state.

The Flippen Group employs 25 people locally and about 70 around the world. The Flippens said focusing on their staff and creating a unique work environment in which people look forward to coming to every day is what sets them apart from other companies.

"We really love our staff and they know that," Flip Flippen said. "We consider our staff our No. 1 client. If we give them great customer service then they will give our clients great customer service."

The company boasts weekly team and monthly company-wide "huddles" where staff members get together to work on projects and tackle problems.

"We are committed to working together as a team," Susan Flippen said. "Our company secret is the unity of our team. No matter what comes at our team, we can handle it together."

The Flippens also pride themselves on the company's strong focus on balancing work and family. In addition to the traditional two weeks of vacation granted to employees, the company closes its doors for a week in the summer and winter for staff to enjoy time with families while getting paid.

"If staff can go get rested and get rejuvenated they can come back ready to go," Flip Flippen said. "Our philosophy is to tend to the staff and it's so important to us."

• *Laura Hensley's e-mail address is laura.hensley@theeagle.com.*

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