



From left: Rich Wood, James Savage, Steven Fischer, Nathan Lasnoski

Concurrency celebrates Top Milwaukee Workplace Award

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When corporate recruiters line up at the exits, employees know it's a great place to work. The information technology professionals at Concurrency Inc. certainly enjoy that luxury.

"Concurrency is on a watch list for most of the recruiters and other systems integrators in the city," company president Jim Savage says proudly. "They know our people are top-notch."

Since 1989, Savage's firm has offered a blend of IT services, business productivity training and managed services to customers throughout southeast Wisconsin.

Located in a new, ultra-modern building in Brookfield, the firm's 25 associates enjoy spacious office suites equipped with the latest technology. Outside the building, it's just as spectacular. A panoramic view of a lush nature conservancy and a half-acre pond highlight the casual, yet professional work environment. The second-floor deck provides an inviting location for quiet one-on-one discussions, small, impromptu meetings or even a coffee break.

Savage, a Milwaukee native and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee graduate, is very



careful to pick the right people for his firm that specializes in enterprise content management, infrastructure, development and consulting. He pre-screens the applicants and conducts the initial interviews. Then his team gets involved in the next phase of the hiring process.

"We're not going to hire anybody who conflicts with our culture," he says. "We want people passionate about information technology, not necessarily just technology, but also people passionate about business productivity."

Savage realizes that when much is expected from team-oriented, talented individuals with superior technical knowledge, exceptional communication skills, boundless creativity and a never-say-die attitude, the rewards must be just as great.

Concurrency offers full, employer-paid premiums on comprehensive health

insurance coverage, dental insurance, long-term disability and life insurance. In addition to what Savage calls industry-leading salaries, associates have a 100 percent matched 401(k), business development and colleague referrals. Generous vacations, paid time off and vendor or industry conferences help keep the team fresh and invigorated, Savage says. Instead of expecting the employee to shoulder the cost of life-long learning, Concurrency promotes career development by paying for the information worker specializations, competencies and certifications. That type of corporate support makes it one of Wisconsin's few Microsoft gold-certified companies, he says.

Savage finds his best people through friends, relatives, business networking and valued recruiters. Once hired, he provides the tools that make them even better at their careers. In return, they stay.

"We hire good people to begin with. We make significant investments in their training and soft skills," he says. "What keeps them working here is that commitment. There is very little turnover. They're part of the team." ❖