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**DAVE THOMAS FOUNDATION FOR ADOPTION HONORS BEST  
ADOPTION-FRIENDLY WORKPLACES IN THE  
CONSUMER PRODUCTS INDUSTRY**

DUBLIN, Ohio – The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption today announced the fourth annual Best Adoption-Friendly Workplaces in the consumer products industry. The Timberland Company, Stratham, NH, topped the list, followed by C & S Wholesaler Grocers Inc., Keene, NH and General Mills, Minneapolis, MN, in a tie for second place.

“Being an adoption-friendly workplace is an important aspect of our employer of choice philosophy here at The Timberland Company, and we are honored to be recognized by The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption,” said John Pazzani, chief culture officer, The Timberland Company. “We are excited to offer this benefit enhancement to further assist those employees who have made the decision to adopt and support them through their journey.”

In addition to ranking number one in its industry; The Timberland Company ranked #9 on the top 100 Best Adoption-Friendly Workplaces List. The company provides its 5,500 employees with up to \$12,000 per adoption and eight weeks paid leave.

Today, more than 114,000 children are available for adoption in U.S. foster care. Most will spend nearly four years in the system before they are adopted. The release of the fourth annual Best Adoption-Friendly Workplaces List helps the Foundation increase foster care adoption awareness while celebrating those businesses that support adoptive families.

“Whether the child is a 12-year-old victim of child abuse and neglect who has spent years in U.S. foster care, a toddler who has been living in a foreign orphanage, or a newborn from a domestic adoption, it is critical for every child to have the opportunity to adjust and thrive in their adoptive home,” said Rita Soronen, executive director of the Foundation. “This is why employer support of adoption and family-friendly work environments are so crucial.”

Rankings for the Best Adoption Friendly Workplaces List are determined by an analysis of a company’s adoption benefits available to employees who adopt, such as financial reimbursement and paid leave. The Foundation compiled the results from survey data collected from nearly 500 U.S. employers and partnered with *Employee Benefit News*, a SourceMedia publication that is the leading source of information for benefits decision makers, to announce the winners. The Wendy’s/Arby’s Group earned the top spot by offering a maximum of \$24,300 in financial assistance and up to six weeks paid leave.

In addition to ranking the top 100, the Foundation also recognized the top ten by size and the leaders of each industry. To view all of the honorees, visit [www.DaveThomasFoundationforAdoption.org](http://www.DaveThomasFoundationforAdoption.org).

### **Consumer Products Industry Rankings**

1	The Timberland Company
2 (tie)	C&S Wholesale Grocers, Inc.
2	General Mills
4	Kao Brands Company
5	Hasbro, Inc.

### **About the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption**

The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is a national nonprofit public charity dedicated to dramatically increasing the adoptions of the more than 150,000 children waiting in North America's foster care systems. Created by Wendy's® founder, Dave Thomas, who was adopted, the Foundation implements results-driven national signature programs, foster care adoption awareness initiatives and research-based advocacy efforts. To learn more, visit [www.DaveThomasFoundation.org](http://www.DaveThomasFoundation.org) or call 1-800-ASK-DTFA.

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