



For Immediate Release

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Grant Thornton LLP named a 2009 *Working Mother* Top 10 Best Company

Grant Thornton LLP, the U.S. member firm of Grant Thornton International Ltd, one of the six global audit, tax and advisory organizations, has been named among the 2009 Working Mother 100 Best Companies for its unwavering dedication to family-friendly benefits. Although this is the fourth consecutive year that Grant Thornton has made the “*Working Mother* Best Companies” list, it is the first time the firm has made it into the list’s Top 10.

Profiles of the 100 Best Companies, as well as national comparisons, are in the October issue of *Working Mother* and at workingmother.com.

Suzanne Riss, Editor in Chief, *Working Mother* magazine said, “Now more than ever, our readers and all working mothers need the support of their employers. By offering benefits like paid maternity leave, the ability to work from home and wellness programs, as well as programs that enhance financial well-being, our 100 Best are helping to reduce stress in the busy lives of working moms. These companies epitomize family-friendly support at its best.”

Grant Thornton Phoenix Office Managing Partner Brad Preber agrees that employers have a responsibility to support working parents. “It’s also a business imperative today,” said Preber. “We’re thrilled that *Working Mother* has named Grant Thornton LLP a ‘Top 10’ company for the first time. By recognizing our excellence across the board in flexibility, family-friendly benefits and opportunities for advancement, *Working Mother* honors us greatly for acting on our values,” finished Preber.

Even in tough economic times, the *Working Mother* 100 Best Companies employ creative programs that adeptly help employees in all areas of their lives. Among the reasons Grant Thornton made it to *Working Mother*’s Top 10 list are:

- Number of women in leadership: Since 2004, the number of women partners has increased by 181 percent.
- Extended parental benefits: Grant Thornton enhanced or extended many benefits for working parents, including more than doubling job-guaranteed time off and extending fully-paid leave for both individuals on maternity as well as for our adoptive parents.
- Extended coverage: Grant Thornton offers in-vitro fertilization as a covered benefit for the firm’s people, up to \$10,000 for infertility treatments; and adoptive parents

have the opportunity to take a one year leave of absence and receive up to \$10,000 in reimbursements from the firm to cover costs directly related to the adoption of a child.

Now in its 24th year, the *Working Mother* 100 Best Companies program draws attention to the significant contributions working mothers make to industries and the companies that recognize the importance of tapping this essential labor pool.

“We are proud of the family-friendly programs and policies that Grant Thornton has put in place over the last year that enable our working parents to manage their professional and personal responsibilities more effectively,” said Stella Shanovich, Audit partner and West Region representative on the firm’s Women at Grant Thornton National Steering Committee. “Grant Thornton’s culture of flexibility helps our women achieve their career aspirations, while minimizing turnover. We have undertaken a number of new measures to continue to ensure that our women are advancing their careers while also enjoying the best possible work/life experience we can provide,” stated Shanovich.

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Methodology:

Companies were selected for the 2009 *Working Mother* 100 Best Companies based on an extensive application with more than 500 questions on workforce, compensation, child care, flexibility programs, leave policies and more. It also surveys the usage, availability and tracking of programs, as well as the accountability of managers who oversee them. Seven areas were measured and scored: workforce profile, benefits, women’s issues and advancement, child care, flexible work, parental leave and company culture. For this year’s 100 Best, particular weight was given to benefits, flexibility and parental leave.

For more information on applying for the 2010 Working Mother 100 Best Companies, visit www.wmmsurveys.com. The 2010 online application will be available in mid-December and due by early March 2010. All companies that apply, including those that don’t make the 100 Best list, receive feedback showing how they compare with all other applicants.

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About Working Mother Media

Celebrating 30 years, *Working Mother* magazine reaches 2 million readers and is the only national magazine for career-committed mothers while workingmother.com brings to the Web a broad range of insight and solutions served to working mothers every day. *Working Mother’s* 24-year signature research initiative, *Working Mother* 100 Best Companies, is the most important benchmark for work-life practices in corporate America. With offices in New York and Washington, D.C., *Working Mother* Media, a division of [Bonnier Corp.](#), includes the [National Association for Female Executives](#), [Diversity Best Practices](#), the WorkLife Congress and the

Multicultural Women's Conference and Town Halls. *Working Mother* Media's mission is to champion cultural change.

°National statistics are taken from a recent study by the Society for Human Resource Management.