



Bobby Hitt BMW MANUFACTURING

Bobby Hitt, manager of public affairs at BMW Manufacturing Co. has helped put a public face on the 2010 expansion of BMW to its 1.2 million square foot manufacturing facility and its announcement to implement a new alternative fuel platform to use Hydrogen Fuel Cells to power its material handling equipment. Serving in 2010 as chairman of the state's Manufacturers Alliance, Hitt was recently chosen by Governor-elect Nikki Haley to lead the state's job recruitment agency — the SC Department of Commerce. Many state insiders say his knowledge of the State Ports Authority and valuable national and international connections are vital to attracting industry to the state.



Josef Kerscher BMW MANUFACTURING

The BMW Manufacturing Plant has had continued growth in 2010 under the leadership of president Josef Kerscher. BMW Manufacturing launched the production of the newest BMW X5 Sports Activity Vehicle series and assembled its one-millionth X5 this past June. In addition, it recently launched the production of the newest BMW X3 series, which will be assembled in the new expansion Assembly Hall. This latest expansion increased the total plant floor to 4 million square feet. Most importantly for the Upstate, BMW Manufacturing created 1,600 jobs in 2010 to drive the need for X5, X6 and X3 production. Its annual 2010 BMW Charity Pro-Am golf tournament raised a total \$665,000 for 72 local charities.



Velda Hughes HUGHES AGENCY

This year, the Hughes Agency, led by owner and president Velda Hughes, added two international accounts to its list of clients, including TD Bank and Synnex. Her team will lead the transition of Carolina First to TD Bank and will head all PR efforts and media buying for Synnex. She coordinated the Governor's School's largest fund raising campaign to date and raised record amounts of funding for both the Peace Center and the Children's Museum, which by itself was a \$20 million campaign. Hughes was responsible for coordinating major efforts for Clements Kindness, which resulted in a \$500,000 dormitory building located at Camp Courage. Used for special programs and camp activities for children with cancer, the facility opened in July and was respectfully named "Velda's Village."



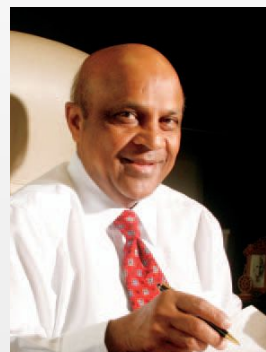
Ray Lattimore MARKETPLACE STAFFING, INC.

President and CEO Ray Lattimore has been a champion of entrepreneurialism and minority business growth throughout the years, in addition to running a highly successful staffing agency which has allowed him to place people in jobs during one of the country's worst economic downturns. In 2010, Lattimore earned his Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) title and hosted the 2010 Business Opportunity Conference, drawing over 1,000 minority businesses. A staunch advocate for minority business growth, he serves on the board of the Carolinas Minority Supplier Development Council, and chairs the regional Minority Business Enterprise Input Committee for the Upstate and the Foothills Regional Advisory Committee. He also serves on the board of the SC Chamber of Commerce.



C. Dan Joyner PRUDENTIAL C. DAN JOYNER, Co. REALTORS

Keeping on top of technology, Prudential launched its 24/7 INFOLINE with voice and text telephone services that provide potential home buyers instant recorded information about a home's features on any listed property in the Greenville, Spartanburg and Anderson areas. The company also launched a mobile version of the cdanjoyner.com website for smart phone users. The company received "Best in the Upstate" by The *Greenville News* and ranked as the #1 realtor in the Upstate and #3 in South Carolina. Dan Joyner placed in the top eight nominees for the 2010 Business Integrity Award by the national Better Business Bureau and currently serves on the boards for the Commerce Club, Furman University's Board of Trustees and Boy Scouts of America.



H.P. Rama JHM HOTELS

With the leadership of CEO HP Rama, JHM Hotels has experienced both domestic and international growth in 2010 despite the significant economic challenges that have taken its toll on many businesses in the Upstate. The addition of new properties in the company portfolio has launched JHM Hotels to #26 on South Carolina's list of the largest, privately held companies. Recently, Rama added the Hyatt Regency Greenville to the portfolio with plans to renovate the hotel and regain it's position as the focal point of downtown Greenville, further enhancing future development and growth in the downtown area. The company's Courtyard by Marriott won a 2010 Hotel Visionary Award for achievement in technology and service innovation.