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Technology Circles Summit

Three of the awards honor firms and individuals within the accounting profession that excel in aligning technology and firm management while the fourth award recognizes an outstanding emerging leader.

Aug. 26, 2015



Four accounting thought leaders were selected as this year's "Bridging the Gap" awards after being honored on August 17 by Boomer Consulting, Inc. during the 2015 Boomer Technology Circles Summit in Kansas City.

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Rachael Godwin, Principal, Hartmann, Blackmon, & Kilgore, P.C., was presented with the 2015 Bridging the Gap as an Emerging Leader award.

Godwin was promoted to Principal in January 2014 and has been a major part of several initiatives. As Chair of the firm's Technology Committee she led the group in initiatives to improve technology by migrating to a third party hosted environment, evaluating major software applications for implementation, and updating hardware replacement programs. As Director of the Accounting & Auditing services, she, along with the firm's Lean Six Sigma staff, championed the audit team through a Lean Six Sigma analysis of the firm's audit processes leading to higher efficiency, enhanced communications and a consistent culture.

Godwin was noted as a leader who understands that change is constant and as an advocate for improvement, excellent internal service and outstanding client service. In addition to her internal leadership, she has honed an expertise in CFO services to local government organizations providing counties and cities comprehensive expertise they otherwise would not have.

Hartmann, Blackmon & Kilgore P.C. (<http://www.hbkcpas.net>) is a certified public accounting and business consulting firm with four offices in Alabama.

Jim Bourke, CPA

(<http://www.withum.com/partner/james-c-bourke>)

Jim Bourke, Partner-in-charge of Firm Technology at WithumSmith + Brown, was presented with the 2015 Bridging the Gap in Firm Management award. According to presenter Jim Boomer, Bourke was nominated because "he continuously challenges others to lead with new technology initiatives...and many individuals consider him to be a great mentor who has helped them achieve success within their firm." Bourke, who has been named by Accounting Today as one of the Top 100 Influential People

in the Accounting Profession for three consecutive years, became the award's first

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Don Logan, Director of Technology at Wiss & Company, LLP, was presented with the 2015 Bridging the Gap in Technology award. Logan has been a key player in evolving his firm's technology from its core internal technology services to offering advisory services to clients. Since migrating its internal systems to private/public cloud and applying best practices for efficiencies, autonomy and aligning technology with the business goals and plan, the technology group has taken what they have learned and applied that to its clients. Bringing clients systems to the cloud enables them to focus on their core strengths and business while getting extremely high ROI and uptime.

Wiss & Company, LLP (<http://www.wiss.com>) is a 28 partner/180 professional staff firm with four offices in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area.

Clark Nuber PS – Peter Henley, CPA

(<http://clarknuber.com/people/peter-henley/>)

Peter Henley, Senior Director at Clark Nuber PS, was presented with the 2015 Bridging the Gap award for Technology and Firm Management Project, an award that recognizes a firm's project to leverage technology to accelerate the achievement of the firm's vision and goals.

With their project, IRS Form 990 Board Questionnaire, Clark Nuber was able to streamline their firm operations, give their clients a better tool for collecting data, and help their client relationships with some of their own constituency.

The IRS requires not-for-profit organization to receive information from "Interested Persons" in order to complete the annual form 990. Contacting and receiving information from the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees and key employees; family members thereof; grant selection committee members; substantial contributors and their employees, can be extremely difficult, especially for large organizations. For several years Clark Nuber used a macro driven Excel

workbook to collect data. Last year they partnered with HKMP Technologies to

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naturally an honor and a privilege to have these individuals participating in our programs so that we can network with, and learn from some of the brightest and most influential people in accounting.”

The winners were chosen from nominations submitted by around 100 eligible firms that are either members of the Boomer Technology Circles™ or participants in the P3 Leadership Academy.

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