Big Companies, Big Benefits

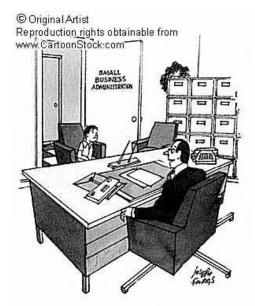
choose to work for a larger company. When deciding where to apply for jobs, you need to be honest with yourself and determine where you would best fit in. I always made friends easily and knew that I would be comfortable working with different people.

Working for a large company has many benefits: diversity of work and an abundance of available projects, the flexibility to work in nearly any part of the country you want, the opportunity to work on projects across the nation and with people from different offices, excellent compensation, many opportunities to work your way up in the company, and often great benefits, such as the opportunity to enroll in a nationwide health care plan.



I started working for Gannett Fleming in January of 2007. While I was in the office, I worked on a variety of projects from Environmental Site Assessments to landslide stabilization with soil nails. That summer, I was given the opportunity to work on one of the most critical dams in the nation. While there, I met employees from at least 5 different offices throughout the country. It was interesting to find out what other projects they had worked on for their respective offices and the dynamics of their individual offices. The project is now finished, and I have decided to stay and work on a few more critical dams. Working for a large company was definitely the best fit for me!

Nichole Wendlandt Chair, AEG Allegany-Ohio Section SYPSC Member



"You're a little 100 small."

Why I Like Working for a Small Company

Working for a small company has numerous benefits. First, I know just about everybody on a first name basis. We do a lot of fun events like BBQs, picnics, chili-cook offs, etc, so it is nice to be able to talk to everyone there and not feel overwhelmed because with our size those events are manageable. Next, I don't ever have to worry about getting sent to another part of the country to support one of many branch offices. Our company covers the Midwest pretty well, but short duration trips to cover projects are much easier then extended month-long projects.

Next, the opportunity for professional growth and career advancement, in my opinion, are more plentiful. Our company has grown at a comfortable pace since I've been here, and many peers of mine have advanced to become project mangers and division managers. In addition, we have all of our resources under one roof. What I mean by that is we don't have to wait for a paycheck or expense check to come from another city. Along the same lines, vacation requests and requests to attend AEG functions all get reviewed and approved quickly by somebody that sits right next to me, not someone several states away.

Also, working in a small company provides me with the opportunity to cross train in similar or completely different areas of expertise, thus, providing

the employee with more diverse capabilities, more marketable skills, and overall, the chance to be of greater value to the company. Cross training could also include some non-technical aspects of running the business such as strategic planning, marketing, finances, and equipment resources – numerous important areas of expertise that could not be developed as quickly by a single individual in a large company atmosphere.

- Duane Kreuger

Vice-President, President-Elect of AEG