



Hattiesburg Airgas employees celebrate the national award during a special recognition held at the plant on July 18.

National Plant of Year

H'burg Airgas fill plant takes top honors

The Hattiesburg cylinder gas fill plant has been named National Plant of the Year by Airgas, an Air Liquide company. Selected from among 350 Airgas plants across the country, the Hattiesburg fill plant was the top performing fill plant in the South Division of the company, and surpassed other region leaders in safety and performance measures.

In 2016, the plant had no accidents for the second straight year and passed all compliance audits with near-perfect marks. The team of 22 plant operators and drivers – who fill and distribute cylinders of gases such as oxygen, nitrogen, argon, and helium to customers across Mississippi – produced around 21,000 high pressure cylinders per month, with one of the highest production and fulfillment rates in the South Division.

"This is an exceptional accomplishment, to be chosen as the best from almost 350 Airgas cylinder plants in the country," said Jay Worley, senior vice president of Distribution Operations for Airgas. "This National Cylinder Plant of the Year award recognizes the outstanding safety culture and productivity generated by the dedication and teamwork of each associate at the Hattiesburg plant."

Airgas CEO Pascal Vinet, Chief Operating Officer Andy Cichocki, South Division President John Sheehan and South Region President Edwin Robertson joined Worley on a visit to the Byron Street plant on July 18 to celebrate the plant's success, tour the facility and personally congratulate the plant's 24 Hattiesburg employees.

"Many of us have worked together at this plant for decades," said Robert Swilley, who has been at the Hattiesburg facility for 19 years and was recently named the plant manager. "We appreciate being recognized for doing what's right – working safely and efficiently while providing a quality product and service for our customers."

The Hattiesburg plant received a National

Cylinder Plant of the Year trophy made from a three-foot gold cylinder. Additionally, each plant associate receives a personalized award ring commemorating the achievement. This is the inaugural year of the fill plant award, which will be an annual tradition going forward.

Airgas, an Air Liquide company, is the leading U.S. supplier of industrial, medical and specialty gases, as well as hard-goods and related products; one of the largest U.S. suppliers of safety products; and a leading U.S. supplier of refrigerants, ammonia products, and process chemicals. Dedicated to improving the performance of its more than 1 million customers, Airgas safely and reliably provides products, services and expertise through its more than 18,000 associates, more than 1,100 locations, robust e-Business platform, and Airgas Total Access telesales channel.

As an Air Liquide company, the world leader in gases, technology and services for Industry and Health, Airgas offers customers an unrivaled global footprint and industry leading technology and innovations. For more information, please visit www.airgas.com.

The Hattiesburg fill plant was built in 1995 and acquired by Airgas in 2012. It supplies industrial, medical, and specialty gases to all Airgas branches in the South Region Mississippi markets, from Vicksburg across to Jackson and south to the Gulf Coast. The customer base is broad, covering markets segments including Energy and Chemical Production, Metal Fabrication, Healthcare and Aerospace.

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\$25K raised by Keesler Credit tourney

Keesler Federal Credit Union hosted its sixth Annual "Eagles Under The Oaks" Golf Tournament at The Oaks Golf Club in Pass Christian. This yearly event, in partnership with military personnel and sponsors, benefits the Combat Wounded Veterans of South Mississippi (CWVSM), a non-profit organization established to support the many physically and psychologically combat-disabled heroes who reside on the Gulf Coast.



Boasting a record turnout with 33 teams of golfers hitting the links, this year's tournament succeeded in raising a total of \$25,000 for CWVSM.

"Eagles Under The Oaks is truly one of the most meaningful events on our calendar," said Andy Swoger, Keesler Federal Credit Union President and CEO. "On behalf of everyone in our organization, it is an honor to have this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the wounded warriors in our community. We are grateful each and every day for their valiant service and sacrifices."

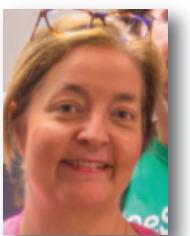
Stocks is Employee of Quarter at HC

Sheila Stocks has been selected Employee of the Quarter for Hattiesburg Clinic's second quarter of 2017.

Stocks, an ultrasound technician at The Breast Center, was selected from more than 270 nominations.

She has been employed with the clinic for nearly 10 years.

Stocks' colleagues described her in the following ways:



"She strives to remain up-to-date on emerging technology and education. She attends education conferences on her own time to maintain her knowledge base to serve the patients better."

"Passionate about providing the best care possible. Always strives to make the patients' experience pleasant and informative."

"Excellent relationships with coworkers. Willing to assist whenever possible and goes the extra mile with patients."

Stocks has also been recognized for her participation in community-driven committees at the clinic. Hattiesburg Clinic employees are nominated by their peers, managers and patients and then selected by a committee of people from all levels of the clinic.