

ProAct ranks Commercial Water Distributing as the best

ZUMBROTA — Commercial Water Distributing has been named ProAct Employer of the Year by the nonprofit's Red Wing facility, which supports a group of individuals with disabilities who work on weekdays at the filter distribution company.

"ProAct has been an integral partner as we continue to build our business," Commercial Water Distributing CEO Javin Arvig said. "They connect us with amazing people who help us accomplish our goals so we can provide value to our customers and the world."

ProAct vocational services specialist Sam Kapala said staff members at ProAct have been impressed with how Commercial Water Distributing includes the ProAct crew in recognition events and company meals, and the firm does a good job of making sure the people have sufficient training and adequate work space. The jobs there have also been a great opportunity for people with disabilities who live in Zumbrota and nearby communities to work each day with a minimal commute.

The two organizations



Stacy Larson, Commercial Water Distributing vice president of operations, accepts the ProAct Employer of the Year award from Sam Kapala, ProAct vocational services specialist, at the organization's annual banquet Friday, Oct. 7.

are exploring options to bring overflow work to ProAct's substantial packaging and assembly operation in Red Wing.

Commercial Water Distributing was recognized as one of the fastest growing companies by Inc. 5000 for five years and has received awards from the Better Business Bureau and Bizrate.

"However, the awards that mean the most to us are the ones that say we are a 'best place to work.'

We spend a lot of time and energy trying to make sure we have a strong culture and a great place for people to build their careers," Arvig said. "Thank you for this honor."

The firm specializes in drinking water filters and products that use reverse osmosis. Refrigerator filters and chemical water purification are additional specialties, as are water filters for refrigerators and coffee makers.

Workers from ProAct

sort and repackage the products, apply bar code labels and ready them for shipment. Maintaining quality is the primary concern, crewmembers explained. Most of the crewmembers had worked previously at ProAct's facility in Red Wing, but these job opportunities have allowed them to work more hours and more days per week because the trip to Red Wing and back is no longer necessary.