

Staffing company redoing building to accommodate growth

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KeyStaff Inc., a growing Austin-based staffing agency, is getting a new home.

Founded in 2004 by Jason Stoneberg and Amy Stanley, KeyStaff has grown to 11 employees and two offices — its main campus in Austin and an office in San Antonio, which opened last year.

Stoneberg and Stanley bought a building at 2417 Ashdale Drive in North Austin, just north of Burnet Road and Anderson Lane, this year. Tony Galla of SkylesBayne Co. represented KeyStaff in the deal.

Austin architect Michael Hsu has been tapped to refresh the 5,100-square-foot building inside and out. The agency will occupy about 3,800 square feet and lease the remaining office space. Once a contractor is picked, Stoneberg believes the project will take about six months.

The cost of the project isn't disclosed.

This is the second move for the company, which provides temporary, temporary-to-permanent and direct-hire staffing services for companies across various industries.

The new building will have room for about 18 internal employees, Stoneberg said. KeyStaff has almost 300 temporary employees working for its clients.

The building purchase caps off a good 12 or so months for KeyStaff.

Despite the economic downturn, KeyStaff grew and had one of its best years in 2010 thanks to obtaining new business. Last year, KeyStaff's billings were up 45 percent compared with 2009, Stoneberg said.

"The nice thing is that we were able to flourish during the downturn, and it really makes me optimistic as the economy starts to pick up," Stoneberg said.

KeyStaff, which provides workers ranging from entry-level administrative employees to professional staffers, is seeing strong demand for professionals with tech and accounting backgrounds.

"We've seen a lot of activity across the board. People still need administrative services," Stoneberg said.

The company competes against more established staffing companies such as Kelly Services Inc. and ManPower Inc., as well as smaller players. Stoneberg estimates there are about 100 staffing companies

serving the Austin area. What sets KeyStaff apart is a focus on serving not only its clients, but also its temporary staffers, Stoneberg said.

"It's a crowded industry," he said. "We want to provide quality service to everyone. The candidates want to work for us, and the clients want to work with us because we get them good employees."

Steve Savage, a co-founder of TriFusion who has worked with KeyStaff for about

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Jason Stoneberg
Co-founder
KeyStaff Inc.



Jason Stoneberg and Amy Stanley plan to move their company, KeyStaff Inc., into a building they're having renovated in North Austin.

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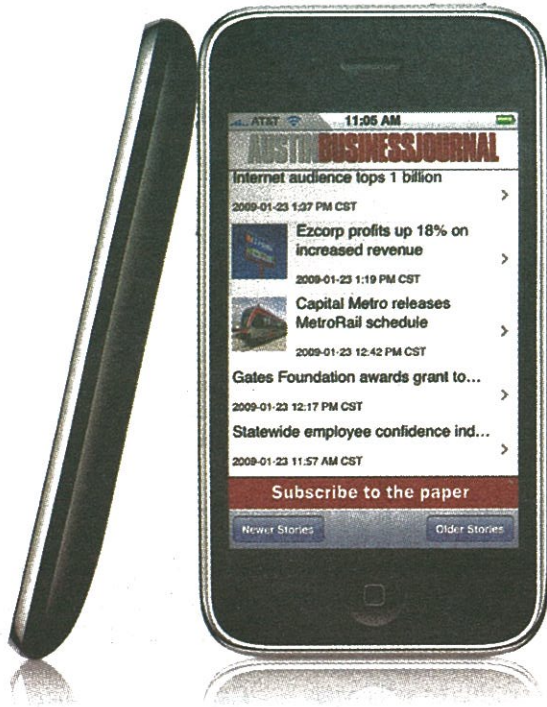
seven years, considers employee engagement an important factor in choosing a staffing agency.

"What we appreciate about KeyStaff is that employees feel cared for and connected to KeyStaff, and whenever they feel connected to KeyStaff, they are connected to us," Savage said.

The company also separates itself through community service, Savage said. Once a quarter, KeyStaff participates in a volunteer project for a nonprofit.

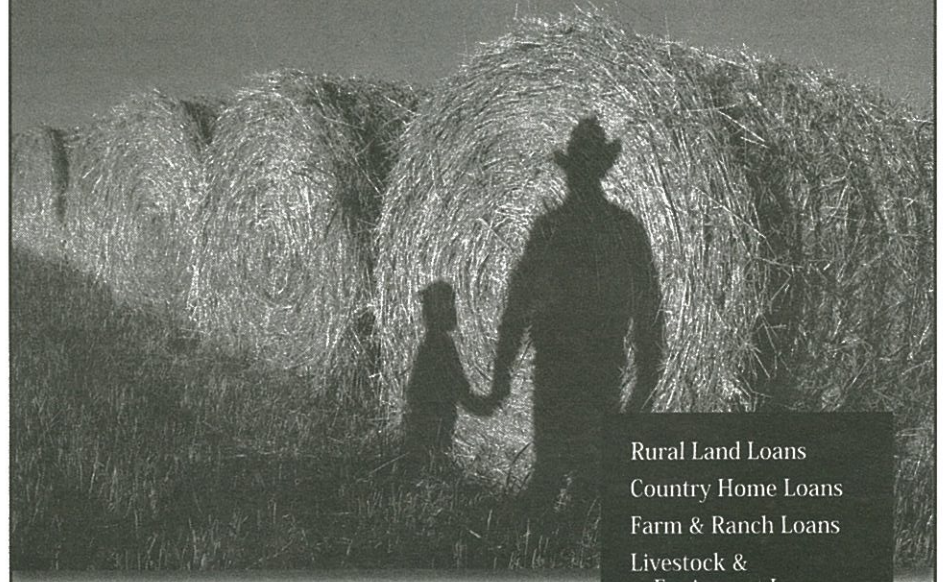
KeyStaff "does a lot of community service, and when they do they get us involved," he said. "There are just a good variety of reasons to work with KeyStaff."

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