

Staples Earns Top Marks in 2014 Corporate Equality Index
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For Fourth Year in a Row, Staples Earns 100 percent on Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Scorecard on LGBT Workplace Equality

Staples, Inc. (Nasdaq: SPLS) today announced that it received a perfect score of 100 percent on the [2014 Corporate Equality Index \(CEI\)](#). The CEI is a national benchmarking survey and report on corporate policies and practices related to LGBT workplace equality, administered by the [Human Rights Campaign \(HRC\) Foundation](#). This marks the fourth year in a row Staples has received a perfect score of 100 percent.

"Staples is proud of our support for diversity throughout our company," said John Burke, chief culture officer and senior vice president, Staples, Inc. "The perfect score on the HRC Equality Index highlights how we embrace and promote diversity and inclusion so that all associates feel valued for who they are."

Staples was previously named one of the ["Best Places to Work for LGBT Equality"](#) by the HRC. The company has Associate Resource Groups (ARGs), a formal community of committed associates who support Staples business results, global diversity strategy, community involvement and associate engagement, including an ARG called "Out At Work," for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender associates and allies.

Staples also has diversity partnerships with both the HRC and [National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce \(NGLCC\)](#) and has participated in the [It Gets Better Project](#), which communicates to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth around the world that it gets better, and to create and inspire the changes needed to make it better for them, [filming a video](#) supporting the organization and its message.

The 2014 CEI rated 934 businesses in the report, which evaluates LGBT-related policies and practices including non-discrimination workplace protections, domestic partner benefits, transgender-inclusive health care benefits, competency programs, and public engagement with the LGBT community. Staples's efforts in satisfying all of the CEI's criteria resulting in a 100 percent ranking and the designation as a Best Place to Work for LGBT Equality.

For more information on Staples diversity practices, please visit the company's ["Staples Soul" website and its section on diversity](#).

About Staples

Staples is the world's largest office products company and second largest internet retailer. For 26 years, Staples has served the needs of business customers and its vision is to provide every product businesses need to succeed. Through its world-class retail, online and delivery capabilities, Staples offers office supplies, technology products and services, facilities and breakroom supplies, furniture, copy and print services and a wide range of other product categories. With thousands of associates worldwide dedicated to making it easy for businesses of all sizes, Staples operates throughout North and South America, Europe, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. The company is headquartered outside Boston. More information about Staples (Nasdaq: SPLS) is available at www.staples.com.

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