Henry Schein: 20 years in Reno-Sparks and counting

Mar 29, 2013



Henry Schein employees celebrate 20 years of providing health care products and services on Thursday. / Provided by Jim Lopes

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Vista Boulevard

HENRY SCHEIN INC.

Fast facts:

HEADQUARTERS: Melville, N.Y.

EMPLOYEES: 15,000 worldwide (470 in Reno-Sparks)

U.S. WAREHOUSES: Sparks, Denver, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Dallas

OPENED IN RENO: January 1993

FOOTPRINT GROWTH: 71,500 square feet in 1993; 370,000 square feet today **FULFILLMENT GROWTH:** 850 orders a day in 1993; 4,000+ a day today.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS: Truckee River Clean Up, Henry Schein Back to School Program, Relay for Life Walk, St.

Vincent's Food Drive, Moms on the Run.

Source: Henry Schein Inc.

You won't see the name "Henry Schein" on trucks. But the medical office products the company ships fill plenty of UPS and On-Trac rigs heading to points up and down the West Coast.

On Thursday, executives from Henry Schein Inc., toured the Sparks warehouse to mark the suburban New York company's 20 years in Northern Nevada, with expectations for many more ahead.

"We've been growing since we opened, and we expect to continue to grow," said Chairman/CEO Stanley Bergman.

Indeed, what began in 1993 with 50 employees shipping an average of 850 orders a day has swelled to 200 workers today, filling five times more orders for equipment, laboratory products and other supplies for health care offices across the West.

It's one of five U.S. facilities in a company that, with operations in 25 countries, bills itself as the world's largest provider of health care products and services to office-based veterinary, dental and physician practitioners.

Last year alone, Henry Schein, based in Melville, N.Y., on Long Island, generated \$388.1 million in profits on \$8.9 billion in revenue.

In addition to the Sparks warehouse, Henry Schein, named after a New York pharmacist who founded the company in 1932, operates a call center opened 15 years ago that brings the company's Reno-Sparks employee base to 470, including 20 who help install equipment on site.

"It's a unique culture we have. We work in a 'collegiate' atmosphere," Bergman said before visiting the Sparks operations on Vista Boulevard, where the staff welcomed him by wearing blue "CATCH THE SPIRIT" T-shirts.