



**Armstrong®**  
World Industries

## Non-Profit Partner Names AWI Pensacola Employer of the Year

Our Pensacola, Fla., plant received the 2024 Employer of the Year Award from The Arc Gateway, a Pensacola non-profit organization that provides employment to adults with intellectual and developmental challenges.



Fabrication Manager Wendell Cockrell accepted the award at the June 20 ceremony. He was joined by Rebecca Todd, HR assistant manager; Debbie Brown, VS improvement champion; and William Small, Boardmill manager.

In presenting the award, a representative from The Arc Gateway said, “This year’s Employer of the Year award goes to [Armstrong], who has embraced The Arc Gateway and our clients for over 38 years. Over the course of the last four decades, The Arc Gateway has worked hand-in-hand with [Armstrong] to put dozens of people with disabilities to work and allowing them to earn a living in order to remain in the community successfully.”

The Arc Gateway workers are employed at the Armstrong Sample Center where they cut, label and

package samples of our commercial and residential ceiling tiles.

The representative also added that hiring people with disabilities can be intimidating to employers who may have concerns associated with capabilities, necessary accommodations, transportation or even the disability itself.

Pensacola Assistant HR Manager Rebecca Todd is credited as an active advocate for the plant’s Sample Center workers, where she regularly visits with the team and includes them in many Armstrong activities. See related story here.

According to Rebecca, “It is an incredibly rewarding experience to work with The Arc Gateway employees. Their pride in their work is evident in every task they undertake, and their smiles and hugs are a heartwarming reminder of the positive impact we can have. The energy and joy they bring to their work are truly inspiring.”



This recognition from The Arc Gateway underscores our commitment to cultivating an inclusive and supportive work environment. By valuing the unique contributions of every team member, we not only enhance our company’s culture but also positively impact the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental challenges.