

Industry News

AICO honors two employees, Wells Fargo

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif. — Home furnishings supplier AICO/Amini Innovations Corp. honored two employees and a financial company during its annual holiday party here.

Lilian Godinez, director of financial services, was

named Employee of the Year. She has been with AICO for more than six years.

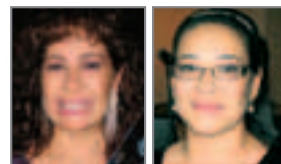
“Choosing the winner for this award every year is always a challenge as each employee in this company puts 110% into their work,” said Michael Amini, AICO

founder and CEO. “However, Lillian stood out this year as her work was outstanding and truly noteworthy.”

The Spirit of Excellence Award was presented to Nelly Herrera, AICO’s customer service manager, for her efficiency, energy and passion.

She has been with AICO for almost six years and is in charge of shipping and supervising and training the customer service staff.

AICO gave its Partner in Progress Award to Wells Fargo Trade Capital in recognition of its dedication and support-



Godinez

Herrera

ing service to the company.

“Mike Williams and his dedicated team have been extremely committed to AICO through this difficult time in our economy, and we are fortunate to be partnered with such a strong company,” said Larry Rinaldi, AICO’s president. Perry Moreth accepted the award for Williams.

Hickory Springs using ‘green’ foam

HICKORY, N.C. — Hickory Springs says it is among the first domestic producers of foam used in mattresses and furniture to bring CertiPUR-US-compliant foam to the U.S. market.

That certification process involves foam testing, including gas and chemical analysis. Hickory Springs also has affirmed that it does not use harmful ingredients prohibited under CertiPUR-US, such as ozone-depleting CFCs, PBDE fire retardants, lead, mercury and other materials, in the foaming process.

The CertiPUR program originated in Europe in 2004. The American version of the program, CertiPUR-US, is open to all manufacturers of flexible polyurethane foam selling products in the United States, Hickory Springs said.

“The CertiPUR-US program is something Hickory Springs is very proud of,” said Dwayne Welch, executive vice president of marketing at Hickory Springs.

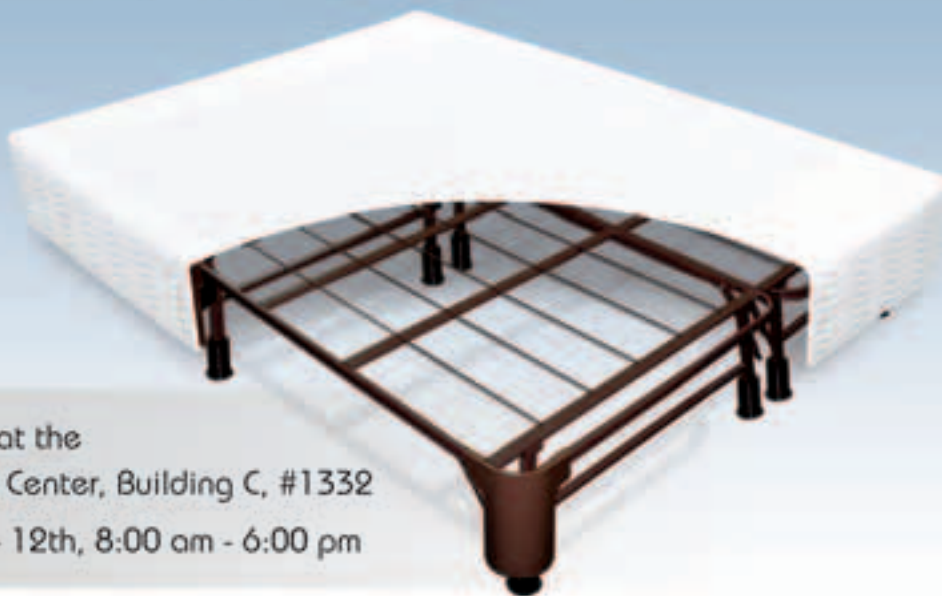
“We see the program as added value, offering our customers — and theirs — peace of mind. In addition, it complements our ongoing company-wide environmental responsibility and sustainability efforts.”

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