



**NELSON FOUNDER HANDS OFF CEO JOB AFTER 40 YEARS.
*Longtime Board Member to Take Over Leadership, Continue Firm's Growth.***

Reported by D. Ashley Verrill, Staff Reporter, North Bay Business Journal

Sonoma, Calif., June 16, 2008 – After nearly four decades taking the business from local to global, Nelson Family of Companies founder Gary Nelson is finally handing over the reins and going on vacation, though he will continue to be involved with the company.

On July 7, longtime Nelson board of directors member and former Boston Private Financial Holdings executive Jonathan “JP” Parker will assume leadership as Chief Executive Officer.

“We interviewed about six or eight candidates before narrowing it down to two finalists,” Mr. Nelson said. “But we chose JP for a combination of reasons: his experience on the board and in-depth knowledge of our business and, most importantly, the family dynamics and values of the Nelson family.”

Sonoma-based Nelson Family of Companies began as a staffing firm in 1970 but over the years has become heavily involved in employment and staffing software solutions. Staffing Industry Analysts ranked the company as the 64th-largest staffing company in the nation with revenues of \$396 million in 2007.

The company’s software arm, WorkforceLogic, recently expanded globally, reaching 30 new countries this year. The business is considered Northern California’s largest independent human capital solutions company.

“I believe JP has the ability to maintain the family values I believe are unique to this company, but at the same time, we want and expect changes as Nelson moves into its next generation,” Mr. Nelson said. “We are much larger and growing and have expanded our software division greatly rather than pure staffing, and we need more structure and process in place. JP is better suited for preparing us in that way than I am,” he said.

For the past five years, Mr. Parker has served on the Nelson board and as Vice Chairman of Boston Private, a publicly traded firm with 400 employees and profits of about \$25 million. He also led the acquisition for the program and was a member of a seven-person senior policy group in the company.

Mr. Parker was also a founding partner of consulting firm Edgar, Dunn & Company, whose clients included AT&T, Holiday Inn Worldwide, MasterCard and Nascar.

He graduated from Tufts University and received his master's from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. At Nelson, he will be responsible for overall strategic planning, business growth and profitability for all divisions of the company, including Nelson Technology, Nelson Staffing, NelsonJobs, WorkforceLogic and HRhome.

Gary Nelson will retain an active role with the company but not on a "full-time, day-to-day basis."

"I am 70 years old, and it was just time. I want to spend more time with my kids and my grandkids and my wife and do some traveling," he said.

"We looked both externally and internally for candidates and agreed as a whole this was the best decision."

Mr. Nelson has hired only one other CEO in the past, about five years ago, but it was only for two years. The founder said this will be a long-term fit, and the company's plan is to continue growth both nationally and internationally.

About the Nelson Family of Companies

The Nelson Family of Companies was founded in 1970 by Chairman and CEO Gary D. Nelson, and is headquartered in Sonoma, CA. According to Staffing Industry Analysts, the company has grown into the 64th largest staffing company in the United States and is the largest independent human capital solutions company in Northern California. This solid growth recently culminated in record revenues of \$377 million in 2006. The Nelson Family of Companies has been ranked as one of the "Best Places to Work" in the Greater Bay Area for the second year in a row according to an employee survey done by the publishers of the *San Francisco Business Times* and *Silicon Valley/San Jose Business Journal*. For more information, visit www.nelsonhr.com.

The businesses within the Nelson Family of Companies include:

- **Nelson and Associates:** Provides full-time and executive search placement, as well as consultant and temporary professionals in the financial area.
- **Nelson Technology:** Provides full-time and contract recruiting in all technology areas including programming, project management, product management, testing, quality assurance, and technology architecture.
- **Nelson Staffing:** Provides consultant, executive, full-time and temporary talent in a broad range of career areas including winery operations, game software testing, legal, office administration, hospitality, customer service, marketing, non-profit, human resources, business development, and sales.
- **NelsonJobs:** Northern California's premier job board.
- **WorkforceLogic:** Is an innovative workforce management company that provides software and services focused on risk mitigation, talent acquisition management, and contingent workforce planning.
- **HRhome:** Is an online resource for HR professionals created by HR professionals