

FASTSIGNS® NAMED A TOP SERVICE FRANCHISE BY FRANCHISE BUSINESS REVIEW

- Independent Survey Shows Franchise Owners Are Highly Satisfied with FASTSIGNS' Performance -

<u>FASTSIGNS International, Inc.</u>, franchisor of FASTSIGNS®, the leading sign, graphics and visual communications franchise, announced today that it has been named a top service franchise by *Franchise Business Review* in its 2019 Top Service Franchises Report.

"With the tremendous demand and growth for service brands across franchising, we are extremely honored to be named as one of the top opportunities by *Franchise Business Review*," said Catherine Monson, President and CEO, FASTSIGNS International, Inc. "The success of our franchisees is what motivates each decision we make, and the outpouring of positive feedback from each FASTSIGNS franchisee surveyed speaks beyond measure to the proven business model we have established. As a franchisor, we are proud we have established hundreds of small business owners with the tools and resources needed to flourish in their local markets. We sincerely thank our dedicated team for helping us obtain this prestigious recognition."

FASTSIGNS was among 174 franchise brands that participated in *Franchise Business Review*'s research on the Top Service Franchises. FASTSIGNS' franchisees were surveyed on 33 benchmark questions about their experience and satisfaction regarding critical areas of their franchise systems, including training and support, operations, franchiser/franchisee relations, and financial opportunity.

"In our fifteen years of research, FASTSIGNS has consistently been among the top companies in franchising, scoring 20% – 35% above industry benchmarks in most areas," said Eric Stites, CEO and Managing Director of *Franchise Business Review*. "Particularly in the areas of leadership and core values, franchisees want to feel that the executive team cares about their personal success and communicates openly and transparently. FASTSIGNS CEO Catherine Monson has done a tremendous job of developing relationships built on trust, and that is clearly reflected in the feedback we received from their franchise owners — with 92% saving that they respect FASTSIGNS' leadership."

FASTSIGNS is known in the industry for equipping its franchisees with tools vital to securing the ongoing success of each individual location. In 2018, FASTSIGNS announced the launch of a special incentive for first responders, including paramedics, emergency medical technicians, police officers, sheriffs, and firefighters, which includes a 50 percent reduction on the franchise fee — a savings of \$24,875.

FASTSIGNS International, Inc. was ranked the #1 franchise opportunity in its category and 95 overall on *Entrepreneur* magazine's 2019 Franchise 500®, the world's first, best and most comprehensive franchise ranking. Acknowledged by entrepreneurs and franchisors as a top competitive tool of measurement, the Franchise 500® recognizes FASTSIGNS, the only sign, graphics, and visual communications franchise to be recognized in the top 100, for its exceptional performance in areas including financial strength and stability, growth rate, and brand power. FASTSIGNS was recently named to the 2019 America's Best Franchises to Buy list by *Forbes* magazine. FASTSIGNS also made *Franchise Direct*'s list of the Top 100 Franchises 2019 and ranked #2 on this year's *Franchise Gator* Top 100 list, both

ranking the best franchises for 2019. *Franchise Business Review* has recognized FASTSIGNS as one of the "Best of the Best" for franchisee satisfaction for the last 10 years, as well as naming FASTSIGNS to its "Innovative Franchises" list in 2017 and its Top 50 Franchises for Women list in 2019. In 2018, *Franchise Business Review* named FASTSIGNS a "Best-in-Category" franchise. This year, the Canadian Franchise Association (CFA) awarded FASTSIGNS International, Inc. the Franchisees' Choice Designation for the seventh consecutive year for its strong relationship with Canadian franchisees, as well as extensive franchisee training and support.

About FASTSIGNS®

FASTSIGNS International, Inc. is the leading sign and visual communications franchisor in North America, and is the worldwide franchisor of more than 700 independently owned and operated FASTSIGNS® centers in nine countries including the United States, Canada, Chile, England, Grand Cayman, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Australia (where centers operate as SIGNWAVE®). Locations are slated to open in two additional countries - Malta and Spain - in 2019.

FASTSIGNS locations provide comprehensive signage and visual graphic solutions to help companies of all sizes and across all industries attract more attention, communicate their message, promote their products, help visitors find their way and extend their branding across all of their customer touch points.

FASTSIGNS centers provide architectural and interior decor graphics, fleet vehicle graphics, digital signs and digital signage content, event graphics, displays, banners, posters, ADA signage, safety and identification signs and much more, as well as handle everything from design to project management to installation.

FASTSIGNS International, Inc. is a recipient of many awards, including being ranked the #1 franchise opportunity in its category in Entrepreneur magazine's Franchise 500 for the past three years, and Best-in-Category in the business services sector on Franchise Business Review's list of the top 200 franchises for multiple years.

Learn more about sign and visual graphic solutions or find a location at <u>fastsigns.com</u>. Follow the brand on LinkedIn at <u>linkedin.com/company/fastsigns</u>, Twitter <u>@FASTSIGNS</u> or Facebook at <u>facebook.com/FASTSIGNS</u>. For information about the FASTSIGNS franchise opportunity, contact Mark Jameson (mark.jameson@fastsigns.com or call 214.346.5679).