

## XCEL HR PURCHASES LEADING PEO IN MARYLAND: ASTRA HR



PEOPLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT Maryland's largest Professional Employer Organization (PEO), Astra HR, has been acquired by a Xcel HR, making the Xcel the region's top PEO. The move makes Xcel a much larger company, as they take over a slew of clients formerly held by Astra. "This new entity adds an additional 4,000 lives into our PEO block. Xcel HR now provides PEO services for over 9,000 work site employees and payroll, ASO, and other HR Outsourcing services to another 8,000 employees." The new merger will provide service to clients in 47 of the 50 states. Astra HR's former CEO Albert "Bud" Hawk expressed his optimism for Xcel. "This is a great move for Astra HR clients and a great opportunity for our team here in Rockville," Hawk said. "Xcel HR brings deeper resources, a highly experienced management team and a clear commitment to being the best in the PEO industry. I foresee a smooth transition as Xcel HR will maintain the same high standards as the old Astra HR."

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