

## News Release

Contact: Leigh Linden  
Company: Brannon Industrial Group  
Tel: 979.291.2240 ext. 605  
Email: [llinden@bigcompany.com](mailto:llinden@bigcompany.com)

## For Immediate Release

### **EY Announces BLAKE BRANNON of BRANNON INDUSTRIAL GROUP as an Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2022 Central South Award Finalist**

*Celebrating ambitious pioneers tackling our biggest challenges*

**BRENHAM, TEXAS, May 9, 2022** – Ernst & Young LLP (EY US) today announced that Blake Brannon, President of Brannon Industrial Group, was named an Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2022 Central South Award finalist. Entrepreneur Of The Year is one of the preeminent competitive business awards for entrepreneurs and leaders of high-growth companies who think big to succeed.

Blake Brannon was selected by a panel of independent judges according to the following criteria – entrepreneurial spirit, purpose, growth and impact – among other core contributions and attributes.

*“Our goal is always to operate with integrity and in a way that others are treated with respect,” says Blake. “It’s easy to take short cuts for financial gain in our industry, but our focus is on building long-term relationships on trust and doing what is right even when no one is looking. Our company is built on the golden rule of treating others in a way that we would want to be treated.”*

*Brannon Industrial Group is a family-owned company led by Blake Brannon as President. The company was started in 2010 by his father, Mike Brannon, as a small roll-off dumpster business. Blake joined the business in 2012 and started Premier Metal Buyers, which has seen continued, rapid growth under his leadership and vision. His leadership led to the acquisition of BVR Waste and Recycling in 2018 and to the expansion of BIG’s 4 different divisions today – Premier Metal Buyers, BVR Waste & Recycling, Stop & Go Potties, and Brand It Graphix.*

Regional award winners will be announced on June 23, 2022. The regional winners will then be considered by the National independent judging panel, and National awards will be presented in November at the Strategic Growth Forum®, one of the nation’s most prestigious gatherings of high-growth, market-leading companies. The Entrepreneur Of The Year National Overall Award winner will then move on to compete for the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™ Award in June 2023.

For over 35 years, EY US has celebrated the unstoppable entrepreneurs who are building a more equitable, sustainable and prosperous world for all. The Entrepreneur Of The Year program has recognized more than 10,000 US executives since its inception in 1986. Entrepreneur Of The Year Award winners have exclusive, ongoing access to the experience, insight and wisdom of fellow alumni and other members of the entrepreneurial community in over 60 countries — all supported by vast EY resources.

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## **Sponsors**

Founded and produced by Ernst & Young LLP, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards are presented by PNC Bank. In Central South, sponsors also include Colliers, DLA Piper, Marsh McLennan Agency, ADP, Bridgepoint Consulting and Pierpont Communications.

## **About Entrepreneur Of The Year®**

Entrepreneur Of The Year is the world's most prestigious business awards program for unstoppable entrepreneurs. These visionary leaders deliver innovation, growth and prosperity that transform our world. The program engages entrepreneurs with insights and experiences that foster growth. It connects them with their peers to strengthen entrepreneurship around the world. Entrepreneur Of The Year is the first and only truly global awards program of its kind.

It celebrates entrepreneurs through regional and national awards programs in more than 145 cities in over 60 countries. National overall winners go on to compete for the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™ title. [ey.com/us/eoy](http://ey.com/us/eoy)

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