

## Presented by George Belcher Evans & Wilmer

An important aspect of an organization's reputation is its employer brand, which refers to the employment market's views of an organization and the efforts used by an employer to adapt or shift this perception. Branding encompasses a variety of components, including both intangible benefits (e.g., workplace culture, values and mission) and tangible benefits (e.g., salary, benefits and other perks). It is also a core factor used in recruiting and retaining employees. Employer branding aims to promote a workplace as a good place to work, with the targeted audience being current and prospective employees.

Employer branding influences the quantity and quality of applicants an organization attracts while positively impacting current employee productivity, retention and overall job satisfaction. An effective employer brand can boost recruiting efforts and build upon a company's culture and values. Employees want to work for organizations where they can enjoy their work, are happy and are treated fairly. If a reputational issue or crisis arises, the quicker employers respond to and fix any problems within their control, the better off the organization's brand is.

To improve or maintain an organization's reputation, employers should consider a branding strategy. This checklist outlines steps for them to consider as they assess employer branding efforts.

Employer Brand Management			
Evaluate the mission of your organization.			
Evaluate the current values of your organization.			
Evaluate the current state of your employer brand.			
Define the objectives of the employer brand.			
Determine internal initiatives (e.g., internal communication campaigns and employee engagement).			
Determine external initiatives (e.g., recruiting and public relations efforts).			
Repeat these steps annually to adapt continuously.			
Mission Statement, Values and Culture	Yes	N/A	No
Does your organization have a mission statement?			
Is your mission statement visible in the workplace?			
Is your mission statement visible on your website?			
Is your mission statement incorporated in marketing and recruiting materials?			

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Culture and Communications	Yes	N/A	No
Do company initiatives support the overall workplace culture?	П	П	П
Is your employer brand articulated in the interview process?			
Are company values or branding addressed during onboarding efforts?			
Does leadership reinforce company values during companywide events or meetings?			
Are managers trained to integrate company values in meetings or other sessions?			
Are employees empowered to talk about their employer externally?			
Is workplace culture reflected in employer branding efforts (e.g., social media or your website)?			
Workplace Safety	Yes	N/A	No
Does your organization have a safety and health program?			
Does your organization provide safety training or education?			
Is safety included in employment-related company branding?			
Is safety included in nonemployment-related company branding?			
Corporate Social Responsibility	Yes	N/A	No
Is your organization contributing to society through environmental initiatives?			
Is your organization contributing to society through social initiatives?			
Is your organization contributing to society through economic initiatives?			
Are any corporate social responsibility efforts included on your website, social media channels or marketing materials?			

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Employee Benefits	Yes	N/A	No
Do your organization's employee benefits support employees' physical health?			
Do your organization's employee benefits support employees' mental health?			
Do your organization's employee benefits support employees' social health?			
Do your organization's employee benefits support employees' financial health?			
Do your organization's employee benefits align with your company values?			
Are your organization's employee benefits effectively communicated to current and prospective employees?			
Are employees' benefits included in your employer branding strategy?			
Online Reputation	Yes	N/A	No
Is the employer brand articulated in the interview process?			
Is your organization actively managing company profiles on online platforms?			
Is your organization monitoring print and online channels for company mentions and reviews?			
Does your organization have a reputation management or response plan?			
Is your organization responding to positive or neutral comments?			
Is your organization responding to negative comments?			
Thought Leadership Content	Yes	N/A	No
Does your organization post or distribute thought leadership content?			
Does the content offer a fresh perspective?			
Does the content resonate with current and prospective employees?			

Use this checklist as a guide when reviewing employer branding at your organization. For assistance with employer branding, contact George Belcher Evans & Wilmer.

