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## 103 Bay Area companies honored for commuting efforts

**By Steve Johnson**

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A coalition of business and government groups praised 103 Bay Area employers for helping reduce traffic and air pollution by offering their workers carpools, subsidized transit passes, emergency rides home and other such services.

It is the second year the group -- Bay Area's Best Workplaces for Commuters Coalition -- has honored local employers for providing transportation-related benefits. Last year, 84 employers were recognized, which suggests the coalition's message is catching on, according to Robin Snyder, an U.S. Environmental Protection Agency official involved with the coalition.

"I think it's amazing that we're able to increase the list because the economy really hasn't turned around much," Snyder said. "It also says something about the companies' commitment to the environment."

To be honored, employees must offer their employees at least one major service -- such as a transit pass, paying workers not to use company parking, or significant telecommuting opportunities -- as well as three other benefits. The latter can include vanpools, showers for bikers and on-site day care facilities.