



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Vortex Tool Company, Inc. Competing for 28th Annual Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year Award
Schofield Company One of 38 Businesses Nominated**

Madison- Vortex Tool Company, Inc., located in Schofield, is competing for a Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year Award. They are one of 38 Wisconsin businesses nominated for the Grand Award.

Vortex Tool Company, Inc. is the largest American-owned and operated manufacturer of solid carbide router bits in the United States and manufactures other cutting tools for the woodworking, plastic and metal industries. Vortex's high quality tools provide higher operating speeds for significantly longer tool life and long-term value, with their Xtreme Performance tools lasting three to five times longer than their competitors' products. The company's thirty-four employees work to make and sell its products directly to approximately 5,000 customers, with most being commercial end users of cutting tools, but also to Original Equipment Manufacturers that produce machining equipment.

The Manufacturer of the Year Awards program recognizes a diverse array of manufacturers of all sizes and sectors of the economy for their paramount economic contributions to the great state of Wisconsin. A total of four Grand Award winners will be chosen in categories based on company size.

Each nominee is evaluated in areas such as financial growth or consistency, technological advances, product development, environmental solutions, operation excellence/continuous improvement, commitment to employees, and effective research and development. The Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year award winners are selected by an independent panel of judges representing industry, education, and the public sector.

The annual awards program is co-sponsored by the accounting and advisory firm of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, the law firm of Michael Best and Friedrich LLP, and the business association Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce. The sponsors will celebrate the nominees and reveal the winners at a black-tie awards banquet on Thursday, February 25 at The Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee.

Additional information can be found online at www.wimoty.com or by calling (800) 362-7301.

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