



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**EMBARGOED UNTIL 9:30 P.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2011**

**Contact**

Katy Pettersen, [kpetersen@wmc.org](mailto:kpetersen@wmc.org), (608) 661-6916, (608) 516-6684 cell

**Briess Industries Wins 2010 Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year  
Award**  
**Chilton Company Wins Grand Award in Medium Company Category**

**Milwaukee** – Briess Industries has been awarded a 2010 Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year award. They are one of only seven Wisconsin companies who won one of this year's prestigious awards, competing against 53 total nominees. Their award in the Medium company size category, for companies with 100 – 299 employees, was revealed at a black tie banquet Thursday night at The Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee.

Briess Industries is a perfect example of a successful company. They articulated a strategic plan eight years ago that has doubled their sales and operating income, giving them a strong financial backbone. They have a diverse product portfolio, balancing the company and allowing them to maintain a competitive edge, even when external issues may affect their markets. They are proactive in their community, and have low employee turnover and high commitment to training. Briess encourages their customers' demand to spur new product innovation.

Briess Industries, Inc. is a leading supplier of specialty malts to the beer industry and an innovative supplier of specialty ingredients to the food and beverage industries. They produce more types of specialty malt than any malting company in the world, and they are the only malting company in North America dedicated to the small-scale production of specialty malts for American craft brewers.

Briess employs 125 people and ships malt and industrial ingredients to all 50 states and 20 foreign countries. At any one time, more than 80 percent of the 1,550 commercial breweries in the United States are using Briess malts. Founded in 1876 in Chilton, Briess remains one of the few family-owned malting companies in the world.

Celebrating its 23<sup>rd</sup> year, the MOTY program recognizes manufacturers of all sizes and industries for their contributions to the great state of Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year award winners were selected by an independent panel of judges. The accounting and advisory firm of Baker Tilly, the law firm of Michael Best & Friedrich LLP, and the business association Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce sponsor the MOTY awards program. Additional information can be found online at [www.wimoty.com](http://www.wimoty.com) or by calling (800) 362-7301.

###

**NOTE**

Contact Katy Pettersen, (608) 661-6916, after February 24 for winner quotes and event photos.

**2010 WISCONSIN MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS****Grand Awards**

GE Healthcare Imaging Subsystems, Milwaukee - Mega and Sustainability Categories

Dickten Masch Plastics, Waukesha - Large Category

Briess Industries, Inc., Chilton - Medium Category

Hydro-Thermal Corporation, Waukesha - Small Category

**Special Awards**

Atlas Resin Proppants, Taylor - Team Commitment to the Community Award

HWD Acquisition, dba Hurd Windows & Doors, Medford - Local to Global Commitment Award

Plexus Corporation, Neenah - Customer Commitment Award

**Lifetime Achievement Award in Manufacturing**

James S. Haney, President and CEO, Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce, Madison

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL MINNESOTA MEDIA OUTLETS ONLY**

All company references to Baker Tilly in this press release must be listed as Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP. No shortened version of the company name is permitted.