



PRESS RELEASE
EMBARGOED UNTIL 9:30 P.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2012

Contact

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

**Eight Wisconsin Companies Win
2011 Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year Award**

Milwaukee – Eight Wisconsin companies were awarded a prestigious Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year Award, competing against 52 total nominees. The winners were announced at a black tie banquet Thursday night at The Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee.

The winners are:

Grand Awards

Generac Holdings, Inc., Waukesha - Mega Category
Bell Laboratories, Inc., Madison - Large Category
Edstrom Industries, Inc., Waterford - Medium Category
Waukesha Metal Products, Sussex - Small Category
Linetec, Wausau - Sustainability Category

Special Awards

Cambridge Major Laboratories, Inc., Germantown - Investing Locally, Growing Globally Award
KHS USA, Inc., Waukesha - Educational Stewardship Award
Power Test Incorporated, Sussex - Operational Excellence & Community Support Award

“Baker Tilly is proud to honor these great companies for the important role they play,” said Tim Christen, CEO of Baker Tilly, one of the program sponsors. “Manufacturers are leaders in Wisconsin’s economy, and we congratulate this year’s award winners for their innovation and perseverance.”

Celebrating its 24th 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 representing industry, education, and the public sector.

(MORE)

“These eight companies represent the top tier of Wisconsin’s manufacturers,” said Tod Linstroth, Senior Partner of Michael Best & Friedrich LLP and a member of the firm’s management committee. “The world-class innovation and countless advancements coming from companies in our backyard are second to none.”

“This year’s awards program saw tough competition from 52 of Wisconsin’s premier companies. The judges were faced with difficult decisions in choosing the final award winners,” said Kurt R. Bauer, WMC President/CEO. “Wisconsin is home to thousands of manufacturers employing hundreds of thousands of hard-working people. We are proud to honor those job-makers and employees through this annual awards program.”

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 or by calling (800) 362-7301.

###

NOTE

Contact Katy Pettersen, (608) 516-6684, after 11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 24 for winner quotes and event photos.

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.