



PRESS RELEASE
EMBARGOED UNTIL 9:30 P.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2013

NOTE: Companies will not learn they have won until the night of the banquet. Please do not contact any winners prior to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 28.

Contact

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

Walker Forge Wins
2012 Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year Award
Clintonville company wins large category grand award

Milwaukee – Walker Forge, Inc. is one of eight Wisconsin companies awarded a prestigious Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year Award. The winners were announced Thursday night at a black tie banquet honoring the 58 nominees.

Throughout their 60 years as a premier, full-service, closed-die forging company, Walker Forge in Clintonville has given their customers consistent, long-lasting forging solutions in medium to high-volume applications. The parts Walker Forge creates play a vital role in a variety of heavy machinery used in the agriculture, military, and automotive markets. The longevity of Walker Forge's customers speaks for itself – over a dozen relationships date back over 50 years!

The company reinvested in growth more than ever in 2012, and results indicate this aggressive reinvestment is succeeding. The past three years have seen a significant workforce growth to match the rapid revenue acceleration, growing from 217 employees to over 564 in that short time span.

Celebrating its 25th year, the Manufacturer of the Year Award 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.

The accounting and advisory firm of Baker Tilly, the law firm of Michael Best & Friedrich LLP, and the business association Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce sponsor the MOTY awards program. Additional information can be found online at www.wimoty.com or by calling (800) 362-7301.

(MORE)

The 2012 winners are:

Grand Awards

Greenheck Fan Corporation, Schofield - Mega Category

Walker Forge, Inc., Clintonville - Large Category

Weldall Mfg., Inc., Waukesha- Medium Category

Power Test, Inc., Sussex - Small Category

OEM Fabricators, Inc., Woodville - Workforce Development Category

Special Awards

Alliance Laundry Systems, LLC, Ripon - Market Leadership Award

HUSCO Automotive Holdings, LLC, Whitewater - Technology Innovation & Impact Award

Nekoosa Coated Products, LLC, Nekoosa - Operational Excellence Award

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NOTE

Winner logos and company leader photos are available online here: <http://www.wmc.org/?p=35480>

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.