



PRESS RELEASE
EMBARGOED UNTIL 9:30 P.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014

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 27.

Contact

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

**Nine Companies Receive
2013 Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year Award**

Milwaukee – Nine Wisconsin companies were awarded a prestigious Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year Award. The winners were announced Thursday night at a black tie banquet honoring the 34 nominees.

The winners are:

Grand Awards

Mercury Marine, Fond du Lac - Mega Category
Masters Gallery Foods, Inc., Plymouth - Large Category
Badger Alloys, Inc., Milwaukee - Medium Category
Tailored Label Products, Inc., Menomonee Falls - Small Category
Alto-Shaam, Inc., Menomonee Falls - Workforce Development Category

Special Awards

Alliance Laundry Systems, LLC, Ripon – Investing Locally, Growing Globally Award
Realityworks, Inc., Eau Claire – Innovation Excellence Award
Schuette Metals, Rothschild – Investing in the Future Award
Xten Industries LLC, Kenosha – Employee Engagement & Commitment Award

“While we recognize nine exceptional manufacturers with this year’s awards, we salute all of this year’s nominees for their hard work and dedication in achieving manufacturing excellence. In my opinion and the opinion of my fellow sponsors, each of this year’s nominees has certainly made excellence a habit at their organization,” said Tim Christen, CEO of Baker Tilly, one of the program sponsors.

(MORE)

Celebrating its 26th year, the Manufacturer of the Year Award program recognizes manufacturers of all sizes and industries for all that they do to drive the Wisconsin economy. The Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year award winners were selected by an independent panel of judges representing industry, education, and the public sector.

“It’s been said there is a powerful link between America’s ability to make things, and America’s ability to innovate, compete, and create good jobs. I believe that wholeheartedly and am proud to live in a state where we celebrate those who create, build and produce such an expansive selection of goods,” said Tod Linstroth, Senior Partner of Michael Best & Friedrich LLP and a member of the firm’s management committee.

“In Wisconsin, energy is the lifeblood of our developed economy. Banking is the nervous system. Transportation is the circulatory system. Health care is the soul. But manufacturing is the heart – the most indispensable vital organ of all. This year’s winners can be profoundly proud of the positive impact they continue to make on our great state,” said Kurt R. Bauer, WMC President/CEO.

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.

###

NOTE: Visit www.wimoty.com for more information.