



For Immediate Release
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2010 MANUFACTURERS OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED

Orlando---At the annual Manufacturers' Summit and Global Marketplace on November 3-4, 2010 in Orlando, Florida, the Manufacturers Association of Florida announced the winners of this year's *Manufacturers of the Year* competition.

Twenty-six judges narrowed the competition to 15 finalists; winners were chosen in 4 categories. Each company was judged on: leadership; strategic planning; customer and market focus; measurement, analysis and knowledge management; workforce focus; and process management. In addition to evaluation of applications, tours of finalists' facilities were made by the judges.

The winners, chosen by category, were:

1-50 Employees - Hunter Panels, LLC, Lake City, Florida, founded in 1997, manufactures Polyiso roof insulation panels.

51-125 Employees – JRL Ventures, Inc., Cape Coral, Florida, founded in 1976 is engaged in marine design, engineering, composite tooling and fiberglass part production for boat manufacturers and government entities.

126-400 Employees – Danfoss Turbocor Compressors, Inc., Tallahassee, FL, started in 1993 as a research and development company and converted to a manufacturing company in 2004, now manufactures oil-free compressors designed for the commercial heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration industry.

Over 400 Employees – Swisher International, Inc., Jacksonville, FL, founded in 1861 and operating in Florida since 1924, makes cigars.

Other finalists included Blue Ocean Press, Osprey Biotechnic, Pharmaworks, Inc., Octex LLC, Storm Smart Industries, Structure Medical LLC, Tridien Medical, General Dynamics Land Systems – Tallahassee Operations, Southeastern Printing, Nipro Diagnostics and Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne – West Palm Beach Operations.

“All of our finalists demonstrate a commitment to excellence in the manufacturing business, but our winners are the “best of the best” manufacturers in Florida this year. We are proud of their commitment to their business, their customers and their employees,” said Nancy Stephens, Executive Director, Manufacturers Association of Florida.

Nominations for the 2011 Manufacturers of the Year will be accepted June 1-August 15, 2011. Details can be obtained from the website in the spring of 2011 at www.mafmfg.com.

The Manufacturers Association of Florida, founded in 2005, is comprised of manufacturers and those supporting industries interested in improving the business climate for manufacturers in Florida.

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