

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Powerhouse Manufacturing Sector Leaders Honored at South Florida's Manufacturing (SFMA) Recognition of Excellence Gala

Top Players in the Industry Showcase Innovation, Leadership and Economic Growth for South Florida

MIAMI, Fla. - The South Florida Manufacturers Association (SFMA) dazzled attendees at its 45th Recognition of Excellence Ceremony on June 20, 2024, honoring the region's manufacturing powerhouses and top talent. Since 1961, SFMA has held the distinction of being the #1 resource for South Florida manufacturers, saving its members time and money through advocacy, networking, and resources.

Presented by Randstad, the event's highlight was the prestigious 2024 Manufacturer-of-the-Year and Employee of the Year awards. Twenty-five finalists vied for Manufacturer of the Year, while 109 nominees competed for Employee of the Year, representing Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach counties, and the Treasure Coast.

Manufacturer of the Year winners, selected through a rigorous judging process based on the Malcolm Baldrige Performance Excellence Award criteria:

- Category 1: Micro Giants (1-20 Employees): Fortress Marine Anchors, Fort Lauderdale
- Category 2: The Breakthroughs (21-75 Employees): CMN Steel Fabricators, Miami
- Category 3: The Maverick (76-130 Employees): Slate Solutions, Davie
- Category 4: The Trailblazers (131-199 Employees): Hog Technologies, Stuart
- Category 5: The Titans (200+ Employees): HOERBIGER Corp of America, Pompano Beach

Employee of the Year winners, recognized for their extraordinary contributions:

- Administrative: Patricia LaCroix, SV Microwave
- Engineering: Grant Elgin, Stryker
- Information Technology: Carl von Werder, Southeastern Printing
- Production: Alexis Sardinias, Kohtler Elevator Industries
- Production Support: Wilson Portero America, Kohtler Elevator Industries
- Service Provider: Daniella Mattheus, Randstad USA
- Supervisory: Daylin Pena, SV Microwave

The manufacturing sector plays a vital role in Florida's economy. In 2023, Florida's manufacturing GDP reached \$72.9 billion, with South Florida contributing \$9.33 billion. The region boasts over 7,000 manufacturers and over 100,000 jobs, demonstrating the sector's significant impact on the state's economic landscape.

"Our Recognition of Excellence Ceremony is a tribute to the dedication, innovation, and talent driving our industry forward," said Matthew Rocco, SFMA President. "With Florida now ranking as the 10th largest manufacturing state, South Florida took center stage, showcasing our region's manufacturing powerhouses and their crucial role in our economy."

The gala united manufacturers, suppliers, and industry champions in an unforgettable evening of celebration. For more information, visit sfma.org

Photos of Manufacturer of Year Winners follow at the end of release. For high res photos of all the winners, see contact info below at the end of release.

NOTE: this is a corrected version of the release. Service Provider and Supervisory award winner updated in this version.



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About SFMA: The South Florida Manufacturers Association (SFMA), founded in 1961, is a non-profit trade association supporting and promoting manufacturers in South Florida. Representing companies in Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach counties, and the Treasure Coast, SFMA fosters collaboration, education, and advocacy within the manufacturing community. Since 2016, SFMA has provided a \$2.5 billion operational impact to manufacturers.

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