Maryland Manufacturing Celebration of Stars Story Ideas

The 2024 Maryland Manufacturing Celebration of Stars Program is an RMI of Maryland and Maryland MEP program recognizing people in business, education, government and nonprofits who have made meaningful contributions to our state's manufacturing industry, people we are calling our "Maryland Manufacturing Stars." As part of the Celebration program, we are hosting an online Directory with Stars' stories. Though the program is recognizing people, the Directory can be searched by a Star's name, place of employment and the county in which the place of employment is located. You can view the Directory here.

Not sure what makes someone a Maryland Manufacturing Star? Here are some ideas to inspire you. A Maryland Manufacturing Star could be someone who:

- Promoted a positive image of manufacturing
- Introduced or supported legislation or policy changes on behalf of Maryland manufacturing
- Helped underserved or under-represented populations and areas in Maryland's manufacturing industry
- Exceled in championing industry awareness
- Led economic development manufacturing expansion efforts
- Led energy efficiency or sustainability, pioneering eco-friendly manufacturing practices that minimize environmental impact while maintaining profitability
- Received industry awards, honors, or certifications
- Built strong customer relationships by consistently exceeding expectations and providing excellent service
- Adopted Industry 4.0 strategies and/or purchased Industry 4.0 equipment
- Identified cost savings, process or profitability improvements, or innovative ideas for a Maryland manufacturing company or the industry
- Engaged in expanding international trade of a Maryland-made product
- Led the development of groundbreaking Maryland-made products that set new industry standards or solved critical problems in manufacturing
- Invented a new design or product that is manufactured in Maryland
- Displayed exemplary efforts to connect Maryland manufacturers to government programs and services that support the industry
- Provided financial programs and services to grow manufacturing
- Helped companies scale
- Started up and sustained a manufacturing company in the last three years
- Worked for a Maryland manufacturing company for at least 30 years
- Served as a role model for the rest of the team at a Maryland manufacturing company or for the industry as a whole
- Led a manufacturing, engineering or other STEM industry education or career-introduction program or initiative
- Developed a program for youth to support an introduction to the industry
- Led a program, event, or initiative that created a positive work culture or nurtures talent to foster growth and innovation in the industry
- Referred a superstar for employment at a Maryland manufacturing company
- Mentored others as it relates to manufacturing

Questions? Contact Stacey Smith at <u>stacey@RMIofmaryland.com</u> or cell 443-844-0047 or Chris Plater at <u>chris.plater@RMIofmaryland.com</u> or cell 443-983-7745.