



Council of Industry

The Manufacturers Association of the Hudson Valley

For Immediate Release

May 20, 2011

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Council of Industry's 2011 Manufacturing

Champions Award Breakfast

The Council of Industry, the manufacturers association of the Hudson Valley, held its Manufacturing Champions Award Breakfast on Thursday, May 19th at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. This award recognizes those individuals and organizations, who through vision, dedication, hard work and tireless involvement have helped to overcome some of the many obstacles faced by manufacturers in the Hudson Valley community and in so doing they have made it possible for manufacturers and their employees to prosper. This year's Manufacturing Champions are Assemblyman Marc Molinaro (public sector champion) and Mr. Richard Croce, President of Viking Industries in New Paltz, (private sector champion). In addition, this year the Council presented a regional organization award to Central Hudson Gas & Electric for their contributions and support of

manufacturing throughout the Hudson Valley. There were over one hundred industry leaders in attendance at the Council of Industry event.

Before presenting the awards, Council of Industry Executive Vice President, Harold King spoke to the gathered crowd about manufacturing and the role it plays in our community and our economy. The Council hopes by highlighting the contributions of these Manufacturing Champions to also increase the public's awareness of the vital role manufacturing plays in our community. One statistic that was touched on not only by Mr. King, but in the speeches of the recipients as well was the multiplier effect, the in which money spent in manufacturing produces an increase in the economy greater than the amount spent. In this way manufacturing creates wealth as opposed to redistributing it. By taking the raw materials and combining energy, intellect and ingenuity with the right amount of sweat, manufacturers are able to produce finished goods that are then sold throughout the world, bringing capital and investment into the community. The capital and investment then spread throughout the economy in the form of salary and wages, bank deposits, insurance premiums, construction projects and more. Manufacturing has a multiplier effect of \$1.43 of activity for every dollar spent, that is twice the multiplier of other sectors, with the service industry bringing in only \$0.71 for every dollar spent.

The private sector award was presented to Mr. Richard Croce, the President and co-founder of Viking Industries, Inc. in New Paltz. Beyond his role at Viking, Mr. Croce has also contributed to the manufacturing community as a past President of the Council of Industry Board of Directors, past President of the Ulster County Development Corporations Board of Directors, and member of the Ulster County legislature. Mr. Croce said it is an honor to join the ranks of past Manufacturing Champion Award winners: Taylor Thomson - Millrock Technologies, Jack Effron - Efco Products, and Roger Smith - Pawling Corp.

New York State Assemblyman Marcus Molinaro was presented with Manufacturing Champion Award for the public sector for being a consistent and articulate voice for manufacturing in the state legislature. A member of the Assembly minority task force for manufacturing, he is serving his third term in the New York State Assembly from the 103rd District and is Assistant Minority Leader Pro Tempore, making him the third-ranking official in the Assembly Minority Conference. Assemblyman Molinaro spoke about his hope that there will be more leadership in Albany and his hopes that there will be changes made in New York State that will promote business growth, especially in the manufacturing sector.

For the first time this year, the Council of Industry chose to honor an organization that champions the critical role manufacturing plays in our economy. The Manufacturing

Champion Award was presented to Mr. Steve Lant on behalf of Central Hudson Gas & Electric. Central Hudson is an organization that has made considerable contributions to Hudson Valley Manufacturing for over one hundred years. Central Hudson has a long history of industry support, has been a member of the Council of Industry for nearly a century and has played a key role in promoting economic development, particularly in the manufacturing sector, for many decades. Mr. Lent referred to the multiplier effect as well in describing Central Hudson's increase in funding to support organizations like the Council of Industry and other economic and regional development groups.

The event was a great success and many thanks go out to the sponsors. The major Sponsors for the Manufacturing Champions Award Breakfast were Central Hudson and Rondout Savings Bank. The supporting sponsors of the event were The Chazen Companies, The Mid- Hudson Workshop for the Disabled, and Viking Industries, Inc. Sponsorships not only help to make these events possible but help the Council of Industry to promote and support manufacturing throughout the Hudson Valley. To find out more about the Council of Industry, the Manufacturing is Vital campaign or your local manufacturers go to www.councilofindustry.org.

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