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Council of Industry Announces 2011 Manufacturing Champion Award Recipients

The Council of Industry, the manufacturing association of the Hudson Valley, is proud to announce their 2011 Manufacturing Champion Award recipients. The purpose of the award is to recognize 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 recipients are Assemblyman Marc Molinaro (public sector champion) and Mr. Richard Croce, President of Viking Industries in New Paltz, (private sector champion). For the first time this year the Council will present a regional organization champion award. Central Hudson Gas & Electric is being recognized for their contributions and support of manufacturing in the Hudson Valley. The breakfast to honor the Manufacturing Champions will be held on May 19th at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel.



The Council will present the private sector award to 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.

New York State Assemblyman Marcus Molinaro will receive the 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.

For the first time this year the Council of Industry will honor an organization that champions the critical role manufacturing plays in our economy. Central Hudson Gas & Electric is an organization that has made significant contributions to Hudson Valley Manufacturing. 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.



The Council of Industry will honor these individuals at the Manufacturing Champions Award Breakfast on May 19th, from 7:30 – 9:30 am at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel. The cost to attend is \$30 per person, \$215 for a table of eight. To reserve a seat or table, call (845) 565 -1355 or e-mail abutler@councilofindustry.org. Sponsorships are available see our website for details www.councilofindustry.org.

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