



# Council of Industry

The Manufacturers Association of the Hudson Valley

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## **Council of Industry Award Breakfast Honors**

### **Manufacturing Champions**

On Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Council of Industry held their annual Manufacturing Champion Awards Breakfast at the Powelton Club in Newburgh, NY, honoring individuals and organizations from both the public and private sector, 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 award winners were Jim King, IBM Integrated Supply Chain, Global Execution Planning and Inventory Manager; Ulster County Executive Michael Hein; and the SUNY New Paltz School of Business.

Council of Industry Executive Vice President Harold King kicked the event off highlighting the five



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characteristics of successful manufacturers; passion at the starting point; excellence in execution; innovation; focus; and persistence. The Council of Industry is proud to recognize the individuals and organizations that exhibit these characteristics and keep manufacturing going strong here in the Hudson Valley.

Private Sector Champion Jim King has over 30 years of manufacturing experience, including leadership roles across the diverse Supply Chain and most recently managed the Poughkeepsie Manufacturing Operations team. When accepting his award Jim explained “To be a good leader you have to have a great team and that is what I have.” King was born and raised in Orange County and graduated from Orange County Community College with an Applied Science degree in Electric Technology. Jim Joined IBM in 1981 and for the last 32 years has worked on everything from Memory cards to Mainframe servers. Over the past ten years he has focused on increasing skills within manufacturing especially in the area of LEAN skills. Under King’s leadership, the Poughkeepsie facility has successfully adapted to become competitive in the global landscape (in terms of cost, quality and delivery metrics) so much so that IBM is relocating manufacturing from Rochester, Minnesota.

Public Sector Champion Michael Hein has worked hard to reduce the cost of government while making it more effective and responsive to its citizens. In accepting his award the County Executive said, “I greatly appreciate this recognition from the Council of Industries but the real appreciation is to our local manufacturers who compete in a global economy but choose the Hudson Valley for our quality of life. I will continue to make workforce development and business assistance to



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manufacturers a priority of my Administration.” In his first four years in the Office of the County Executive, Mike Hein has proved to be a huge supporter of manufacturing. He understands that hiring a qualified workforce is one of the primary issues facing today's manufacturers and he worked during the last Consolidated Funding Application process to achieve training funds for Ulster County manufacturers. County Executive Hein has also fought routinely so that industry can continue to prosper in Ulster County. Such actions have included seeking incentives to retain Wolf-tec and Stavo Industries in Ulster County. With the County Executive's help, these businesses revitalized a vacant industrial building in the heart of midtown Kingston and kept important advanced manufacturers in Ulster County. County Executive Hein is routinely recognized for his model programs and innovative initiatives.

In 2011 County Executive Hein demonstrated his commitment to taxpayers by producing a budget with no increase in the County property taxes. His 2013 Executive Budget will decrease Ulster County's real property taxes. This effort is one among many County Executive Hein has undertaken to ensure that Ulster County continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and raise a family for decades to come.

Organization Champion SUNY New Paltz School of Business has, since its establishment in 2001, responded to the needs of manufacturing by establishing a curriculum to educate and train the business community. Hadi Salavitabar, Dean of The School of Business and Donald Christian, President of SUNY New Paltz accepted the award on behalf of The School of Business. Over the years, the Council of Industry and the School of Business have worked closely to provide training and



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education in global business and strategic management. The School recently received its AACSB accreditation, the highest achievement for an educational institution that awards business degrees. Dean Salavitarbar encouraged the manufacturers in the room to take advantage of the resource The School provides such as interns, students that will work out solutions to challenges set forth by companies and the access to research assistance as well.

The 2013 award winners join a well-respected group. This is the sixth year the Council has presented the awards and past recipients include: Carole and Richard Parker, FairRite Products; Jack Effron, EFCO Products; Taylor Thompson, Millbrook Technologies; Richard Croce, Viking Industries, Roger Smith, Pawling Corporation; New York State Senators William Larkin and Stephen Saland; Orange County Executive Ed Diana; Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro; Central Hudson and the Hudson Valley Economic Development Center.

The Council of Industry would like to thank the supporting sponsors that make this award breakfast possible: Central Hudson; The Chazen Companies; Cuddy & Fedder, LLP; Jabil; IBM; Mid-Hudson Workshop for the Disabled; and Ulster Savings Bank.

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