



For Immediate Release

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Hudson Valley Manufacturing Champions

Honored at Award Breakfast

Over 120 Hudson Valley Manufacturers and their associates attended the Council of Industry's Award Breakfast held to honor this year's Manufacturing Champions at the Powelton Club in Newburgh, NY.

The Council of Industry, the Manufacturers' Association of the Hudson Valley, has presented the Manufacturing Champions Award for the last five years to recognize people and organizations who support the manufacturing sector and to increase the public's awareness of the importance of manufacturing in our economy and communities. This honor is bestowed on individuals from both the public and private sector and an organization 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. The 2012 recipients of this award are Richard and Carole Parker, founder and president of Fair Rite Products Corporation, Orange County Executive Ed Diana, and The Hudson Valley Economic Development Corporation.

The private sector Champions, Richard and Carole Parker, are the founder and president of Fair Rite Products Corporation. Richard Parker, a pioneer of the early efforts to use ferrites for EMI energy attenuation, founded Fair Rite Products Corporation in Ulster County in 1952. Under Richard and his wife (and Fair Rite CEO) Carole's leadership Fair Rite Products has grown into a multinational business. Today, still based in Ulster County, Fair Rite Products is one of the world's leaders in development, innovation and manufacture of soft ferrite products, offering a comprehensive product line that includes a wide range of materials and geometries for EMI suppression, power applications and RFID antennas.

The public sector Champion, Orange County Executive Ed Diana has served as county Executive since 2001. County Executive Diana was chosen because he believes that commercial investment is key to affordable taxes, good paying jobs, and quality communities. He has taken personal interest in numerous economic development activities affecting manufacturers including negotiating the Port Authority takeover of the management of Stewart Airport, the formation of the Orange County Business

Accelerator, and the retention of major manufacturing employers Kolmar Labs and Satin Fine foods.

The award for an organization supporting Hudson Valley Manufacturing went to the Hudson Valley Economic Development Corporation, the one-stop shop for companies considering relocating or expanding in the Hudson Valley region. Accepting the award on behalf of the HVEDC was Michael Oates, president of HVEDC. The award recognizes the HVEDC's recent focus on developing industry clusters including semi-conductor, food and beverage, bio-Technology and Medical Devices has proven very beneficial to all Hudson Valley manufacturers. In developing the services infrastructure these clusters need to succeed, all manufactures have benefited, not just those that are part of individual clusters.

Council of Industry Executive Vice President, Harold King, said in his opening remarks that there is a lot of talk about manufacturing these days but those accepting awards today are the ones "walking the walk." This year's award winners join a well respected group. Past Manufacturing Champions include: Jack Effron, Efco Products; Taylor Thompson, Millbrook Technologies; New York State Senators William Larkin and Stephen Saland; Richard Croce, Viking Industries; Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro, and Central Hudson.

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