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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Manufacturing & Industry Excellence Award Winners Announced**

**October 24, 2017 – Oshkosh, Wis.** – The Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation announced winners for three Manufacturing and Industry Excellence Awards. These awards applaud unique products manufactured in our region, the ambition to be innovative and the dedication of industry professionals throughout the greater Oshkosh area.

Award winners were announced in the following categories:

***Made in Greater Oshkosh Award – Sonex Aerospace***

Sonex Aerospace, located in Oshkosh, was presented with the *Made in Greater Oshkosh Award* after receiving the most votes in an online community poll. This award identifies and honors an exceptional product manufactured by a company located in the greater Oshkosh area. Sonex Aerospace designs, develops & manufactures Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) used for a multitude of missions for both government and civilian customers. For more information about Sonex Aerospace, [click here](#).

***Innovation Award – Hoffmaster***

Hoffmaster, located in Oshkosh, was presented with the *Innovation Award*. This award is presented to a company that exhibits innovation through new product development, increased productivity, production quality and/or talent development in the greater Oshkosh area. Hoffmaster recently invested in digital print technology that has increased productivity at a rate 4x faster than traditional napkin production lines and virtually eliminates all setup time with the same high-quality outcome. For more information about Hoffmaster, [click here](#).

***Difference Maker Award – John Schwochert (Proto-1 Manufacturing)***

John Schwochert, owner of Proto-1 Manufacturing in Winneconne, was presented with the *Difference Maker Award*. This award is presented to an individual whose vision, work ethic and dedication have resulted in a profound and lasting impact on the manufacturing industry in greater Oshkosh. Schwochert and his team are heavily involved with the Winneconne Community School District and provide students with opportunities in the manufacturing industry through scholarships and various other initiatives. For more information about Proto-1 Manufacturing, [click here](#).

Award winners were announced at the Greater Oshkosh Manufacturing and Industry Excellence Event on Thursday, October 19th, 2017. Fox Valley Technical College, Quill Creative and Becketts Restaurant sponsored the event.

*Greater Oshkosh EDC provides leadership, direction, coordination and services to advance economic development in the greater Oshkosh, Wisconsin region.*