

MANUFACTURING MATTERS

MACNY Announces 2017 Innovators of the Year

We are pleased to announce that MACNY's Innovator of the Year Award is being presented to a team: Tim Brauner and David Bates of Knowles Capacitors were nominated together and selected as the 2017 MACNY Innovators of the Year! They were nominated by their colleagues, and described as exemplary employees and team players who have advanced the company's growth tremendously through their dedication and efforts towards innovation excellence.

The nomination read, "The reason why we ask for a dual-nomination is because of the relationship these two have. Tim drives the commercial innovation and David the technical. Tim and David identify needs in the marketplace. David introduces unique technical solutions and Tim commercializes them. Tim also provides the energy to the whole operation in response to the opportunities in the marketplace. As a result of their leadership (and the contribution of others on the team) the business has averaged over 40% CAGR the last two years and anticipates extraordinary growth for the foreseeable future."

Tim Brauner has worked at DLI (a brand of Knowles) for 10 years, starting as a ceramic process engineer and has moved up in product management. As a product manager, Tim is always described by his colleagues as having his finger on the pulse of what customers want and using this pulse to ensure that manufacturing ability is always on the forefront of technology and constantly striving for improvement.

David Bates has over 20 years in the RF and microwave industry. He started off as a systems level engineer in phased array radars. In his current role, Chief Scientist, he is constantly developing products for the RF industry. David has an adept skill to read between the lines of where customers want to go with their technology road map and ensuring Knowles' road map aligns.

The MACNY Innovator of the Year Award, sponsored by Corning, Inc. was created at the suggestion of MACNY member Executives and CEOs, as a way to nominate and recognize individuals within a company who consistently demonstrate forward thinking ideas in the areas of technology, innovation, and advancement of products and production. David and Tim were nominated by the entire team at Knowles.

As part of MACNY's tradition, Brauner and Bates will be honored at MACNY's 104th Annual Dinner, in front of their colleagues and an audience of over 600 members of the manufacturing community from Central and Upstate New York. The dinner will be held at the Syracuse OnCenter on May 18th, 2017. For tickets or additional information, please contact Debbie Sindone at 315.474.4201 ext 24, or dsindone@macny.org.

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