2017
WISCONSIN BUSINESS FRIEND of the ENVIRONMENT Awards

WMC
For the 28th year in a row, the WMC Foundation is recognizing nine companies with the Wisconsin Business Friend of the Environment Award. This year’s winners have been chosen for programs that demonstrate an innovative approach to environmental protection, or a level of effort beyond that which is required by regulatory compliance. These success stories reflect the continued commitment of Wisconsin industry to environmental protection.

This year’s award winners represent companies — both large and small — that have made significant improvements in the areas of sustainability, environmental stewardship and environmental innovation. Offering specific examples of successful programs, these nine winners demonstrate that sound environmental practices are good for Wisconsin’s environment and its economy. They serve as important examples for industry.

The 2017 Wisconsin Business Friend of the Environment award winners were selected from 22 nominees by an independent judging panel that included an environmental attorney and representatives from industry and the Department of Natural Resources.
ABOUT ORION ENERGY SYSTEMS, INC.
Orion manufactures and markets a cutting edge portfolio of products encompassing LED solid state lighting and high intensity fluorescent lighting.

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Orion launched seven new products last year to provide customers with new avenues to improve their facility’s performance, improve their bottom line, lower energy consumption and reduce their environmental impact. Orion sold almost 430,000 energy-efficient fixtures in 2016, reducing electricity demand by approximately 49,000 kilowatts, and reducing energy consumption by over 84 million kilowatt hours.

In addition to producing products that benefit their customers and the environment, Orion has taken a number of steps within its own facility and supply chain to further reduce the environmental impacts of its day-to-day business activities. These changes include redesigning fixture packaging to reduce waste generated; implementing a pallet return/recycle program; implementing a vendor foam recycling project which has significantly reduced the amount of discarded foam; and continues to implement their paint recycling program to.

Orion has shown a dedication to environmental sustainability both in the products they produce and in how they produce them. For these successes, they are receiving this Business Friend of the Environment Award.

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ABOUT MASTERS GALLERY FOODS, INC.
Masters Gallery Foods is a leading national cheese supplier with one of the largest privately held cheese inventories in the country. Masters Gallery Foods operates an impressive state-of-the-art production facility that cuts and wraps cheese products, such as cheese sticks, shreds, dices, slices, chunks and cubes. Their cheese products are distributed throughout the United States and Puerto Rico with exports to China, Mexico and other parts of the world.

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Masters Gallery Foods has shown a commitment to environmental sustainability through their continuously growing recycling efforts. In 2016, they redesigned and dedicated a portion of their warehouse to house their recycling equipment and diverted nearly 600 tons from landfills through their efforts recycling everything from hairnets, beard nets, and earplugs. Further, Masters Gallery Foods recycled nearly 950 tons of corrugate materials in 2016. In total, Masters Gallery Foods recycles about 87.81% of their waste.

Their internal commitment to sustainability has also significantly benefited their community. Masters Gallery Foods’ Green Team has implemented an Earth Day clean up; a holiday light recycling drive; and various programs to increase recycling and benefit local schools.

Masters gallery has shown a dedication to environmental sustainability in their operations and corporate culture. For these successes, they are receiving this Business Friend of the Environment Award.

Established
1974
Size
600 employees company-wide
595 Wisconsin employees
Website
www.mastersgalleryfoods.com
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ABOUT UPS
Founded in 1907, UPS is the world’s largest package delivery company and one of the leading global providers of specialized transportation and logistics services.

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UPS delivers an enormous amount of packages into the Wisconsin market every day. UPS has a long record of successfully applying cutting-edge technologies and analytics to improve their fleet efficiency. For more than a decade, UPS has been leveraging data through telematics, package routing technology, service offerings, and other strategies to optimize network efficiencies and minimize the miles driven.

UPS partners with their customers to expand sustainability efforts. They’ve implemented a variety of programs, including: Carbon Impact Analysis (providing detailed emissions reports to customers regarding their shipping activity); UPS Carbon Neutral Shipping (a Natural Capital Partners certified carbon offset program); and Eco Responsible Packaging (working with customers to select packaging that reduces environmental impact).

From packaging to delivery, UPS has shown a commitment to environmental sustainability across the board. For these successes, they are receiving this Business Friend of the Environment Award.

Established
1907

Size
434,000 employees company-wide
4,474 Wisconsin employees

Website
www.ups.com

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ABOUT T. WALL ENTERPRISES

T. Wall Enterprises is a Madison-based well-known, multi-family developer with 30 years of experience. They are dedicated to providing the highest quality living environments to the residents of our communities. They currently have 527 units in operation and over 1000 currently being developed.

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T. Wall enterprises is committed to environmentally-friendly construction and operation, and is committed to staying on the leading edge of environmentally friendly practices and technology and strives to set an example for other developers to follow.

T. Wall Enterprises Urban Villages initiative is an example of one such environmentally-friendly development. Using Green Built Home™ standards, a national award-winning green building initiative that reviews and certifies new homes and remodeling projects that meet sustainable building and energy standards, T. Wall Enterprises developed Tribeca Village in Middleton.

The Tribeca Village project includes landscape conservation measures (including reused topsoil, a silt fence to prevent erosion, and an irrigation system); energy efficiency measures (including energy-efficient heating and cooling, energy efficient windows and thermal breaks, and the use of energy efficient lighting); an efficient use of construction materials (including the use of recycled plastic and wood/fiber composite decking, water-based water proofing, and more); and water conservation and recycling measures.

For this sustained commitment to environmental stewardship, T. Wall Enterprises is receiving this Business Friend of the Environment award.
ABOUT AMERICAN TRANSMISSION COMPANY

American Transmission Company (ATC) was founded in 2001 as the first multi-state, transmission-only utility in the United States. Their transmission system allows energy producers to transport electric power from where it’s generated to where it’s needed. Headquartered in Pewaukee, Wis., ATC owns and operates the electric transmission system in portions of Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and Illinois.

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ATC has shown a commitment to environmental stewardship while providing safe electrical transmission to more than five million customers in the communities they serve. Their Pollinator Program and Avian Tracking Tool are two leading-edge projects that were completed in 2016.

With their Pollinator Program, ATC sought to facilitate the conservation of pollinator habitat within their rights-of-way. As part of the program, ATC identified 911 miles of transmission lines in Wisconsin that can be enhanced. ATC is collaborating with other utilities and pollinator advocacy groups to ensure the program’s success.

ATC has long been tracking avian interactions with their transmission facilities to identify areas where incidents, including bird fatalities from collisions and electrocutions occur in their system. In 2016 ATC enhanced this tracking program by implementing an Avian Tracking Tool. This tool allows ATC to map avian events and nests as well as to use statistics to assign a risk level to line segments and structures. This tool allows better planning for protection measures, with a goal of reducing avian interactions with their infrastructure.

For their consistent approach to environmental stewardship, ATC is receiving this Business Friend of the Environment award.

Established
2001

Size
665 employees company-wide
645 Wisconsin employees

Website
www.atcllc.com

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ABOUT ALLIANT ENERGY
Alliant Energy is a Midwest energy company that provides electric and natural gas services to customers and communities throughout Iowa and Wisconsin.

2017 BUSINESS FRIEND OF THE ENVIRONMENT
Alliant Energy is looking to the future of energy development and has made significant investments to explore cleaner energy sources to benefit their customers and their company. Alliant created an Energy Learning Lab in Madison with a $5 million investment in solar generation, electric vehicle charging and battery energy storage. This project is being used to learn more about solar generation and battery energy storage in our Midwest climate, and is helping Alliant develop strategies to integrate these technologies into the grid.

Alliant is currently gathering operational data on 10 different models of solar panels that employ three different types of technology. They are also storing power using a battery system to determine the impact of using stored power at different times of day as they work to determine the best use of batteries to reduce costs to power operations.

Alliant is also collaborating with the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) to study the integration of on-site renewable power sources and energy storage with the existing grid, the only EPRI integrated grid pilot project in the Midwest.

Their commitment to improving the environment doesn’t stop with just renewable generation, however. Alliant also planted pollinator plants around solar arrays to increase habitat for bees and butterflies, and created a marked walking trail for the public to use. To get the word out, Alliant has also created a series of animated educational videos for students in far off classrooms and school and community groups who tour their campus.

For their significant investments and clear commitment to environmental stewardship, they are receiving this Business Friend of the Environment Award.

Established
1917

Size
4,000 employees company-wide
2,075 Wisconsin employees

Website
www.alliantenergy.com

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ABOUT NELSON AND PADE, INC.
Nelson and Pade, Inc. helps people get started and become successful in aquaponic food production by providing comprehensive training, proven, science-based Clear Flow Aquaponic Systems and long-term grower support in the Nelson and Pade, Inc. Grower Program.

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Nelson and Pade, Inc. is a leader in the fast-growing aquaponics industry. Their innovation and leadership has led to the creation of some of the most efficient and sustainable aquaponics systems available.

Their Zero Discharge-Extra Production (ZDEP) system reuses nutrient rich water to grow more plants, while at the same time reducing water usage and eliminating a wastewater stream. This system also generates an additional, all-natural fertilizer stream. Nelson and Pade has also developed Non-GMO fish food to provide a better diet for fish and a more sustainable product, and food grade plant rafts to save customers money while exceeding new food safety requirements.

Nelson and Pade has shown a commitment to sustainability in their product offerings and continued development. For their innovative solutions that are changing the food system while providing better, more nutritious fresh food, they are receiving this Business Friend of the Environment Award.

Established
1984

Size
17 Wisconsin employees

Website
www.aquaponics.com

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ABOUT FRITO-LAY
Frito-Lay is the $11 billion snack food division of PepsiCo. The Frito-Lay Beloit site is the fifth largest site out of 38 total in North America. They produce the favorite brands of Lays, Ruffles, Cheetos, Doritos, Tostitos, Santitas, Cantinas, Totitos Rolls, and Dinamita’s. They produce a variety of different seasonings for the core product lines, and service Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, South Dakota and North Dakota.

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In 2016 Frito-Lay’s Beloit facility expanded to add a new fryer and 30,000 square feet of warehouse space. The new fryer, using advanced technology, is a closed-loop system where exhaust gases are looped back into the heat exchanger to incinerate any particle emissions, resulting in zero oil emissions into the air.

Frito-Lay also implemented a natural gas reduction pilot program in which they insulated their production fryers and cook kettles. The pilot project was a success, and has delivered more than $60,000 in savings by reducing waste heat. This project is now being shared at Frito-Lay sites across the country. Frito-Lay also implemented water efficiency measures to reduce water usage by over 35 million gallons and save more than $200,000.

Frito-Lay also worked with Focus on Energy to install a compressed air management system to eliminate wasted energy and match compressed air generation to demand and is expected to save more than $26,000 annually.

For their clear commitment to innovation in their manufacturing operations and in how they work with the local community, Frito-Lay is receiving this Business Friend of the Environment Award.

Established
1973

Size
20,000 employees company-wide
900 Wisconsin employees

Website
www.fritolay.com

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ABOUT REGAL BELOIT CORPORATION
Regal Beloit Corporation is a leading manufacturer of electric motors, electrical motion controls, power generation and power transmission products serving markets throughout the world. The company is comprised of three business segments: Commercial and Industrial Systems, Climate Solutions and Power Transmission Solutions.

2017 BUSINESS FRIEND OF THE ENVIRONMENT
As a leading worldwide manufacturer, Regal Beloit has shown a significant commitment to environmental innovation as they help their customers attain higher energy efficiency and strive to become the employer of choice for those wanting a rewarding career with a company that is making a difference for our planet.

Last year, Regal Beloit reduced energy consumption at their manufacturing operations by 3.1% (76,000 mbtu), fresh water consumption by 16.9% (44 million gallons), and reduced waste going into a landfill by 33.2% (6,000 tons). Regal Beloit’s innovative engineering does not stop with their own facility, however, their products are being used in alternative energy applications like wind and solar, and are also being used to reduce the energy consumption of every day applications – including air conditioning, heating and refrigeration.

In 2016, Regal Beloit introduced the DEC Star motorized high efficiency blower. This product provides HVAC product manufacturers an innovative way to reduce the amount of electrical energy consumed by the air moving devices they employ in their appliances. Over a 15-year average appliance life expectancy, the DEC Star will save 22,257 pounds of CO₂.

For their innovation at both their manufacturing facility and in the products they produce, Regal Beloit is receiving this Business Friend of the Environment award.

WMC
Judges

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