



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Amanda Bowen
850.402.2954

**2017 MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS
OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED**

TALLAHASSEE, FL — The Manufacturers Association of Florida announced the winners of the prestigious 2017 Manufacturers and Distributors of the Year competition today. For more than a decade, the MAF annual awards program has identified the top manufacturing and distributing companies in the state of Florida.

Thirteen judges devoted their time and expertise over the past quarter evaluating several dozen industry nominees. Each company was judged on leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus, measurement, analysis and knowledge management, workforce focus, and process management. In addition to evaluation of the applications, the judges interviewed each nominee and toured their facilities.

The winners chosen by category are:

Manufacturer (Small, 1-100 Employees) – Crevalle Boats of Wildwood

Manufacturer (Medium, 101-250 Employees) – American Elite Molding of Crestview

Manufacturer (Large, 251+ Employees) – Exactech, Inc. of Gainesville

Distributor – C.H. Robinson of Tampa

“The 2017 winners represent a high standard of excellence in the Florida manufacturing industry,” said Amanda Bowen, Executive Director, Manufacturers Association of Florida. “Our state’s manufacturing industry is booming in every sense of the word. We are home to more than 20,000 manufacturers and these accomplished winners are leaders in their field. We are honored to recognize their achievements and propel them into the spotlight.”

For further distinction, MAF awarded program winners who also hold membership in the association with the 2017 Seal of Excellence. The Seal sets those winners apart with an additional honor in recognition of their advances and leadership in the industry.

Nominations for the 2018 Manufacturers of the Year competition will be accepted March-April 2018. Prior winners and more details can be found online at www.mafmfg.com.

###

About the Manufacturers Association of Florida (MAF)

The MAF was formed in 2006 to improve the business climate for manufacturers in Florida. There are some 20,000 manufacturers in Florida investing in new technology, employing highly skilled workers and competing globally. For more information about MAF, visit www.mafmfg.com.