

## Minnesota Trade Office recognizes nine companies for developing international markets

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The Minnesota Trade Office (MTO) has named nine companies winners of the 2010 Governor's International Trade Awards for success in building global markets.

The companies were honored during a luncheon at the IDS Center in downtown Minneapolis last week, in recognition of Minnesota World Trade Week 2010.

This year's winners are 3M Company, St. Paul; Ideal Aerosmith, East Grand Forks; Leeds Forensic Systems, Inc., Minneapolis; MOCON, Inc., Brooklyn Park; Network Executive Software, Inc., Maple Grove; ReconRobotics, Inc., Edina; Rosenbauer America LLC, Wyoming; Viracon, Owatonna; and Knewton Soy Products, LLP, Good Thunder.

"Minnesota companies sold nearly \$15 billion in manufactured exports last year," said Dan McElroy, commissioner of the Department of Employment and Economic Development. "State exports have rebounded strongly through the first half of 2010, approaching the record volumes of 2008. The nine award winners recognize the value that diverse, global markets can bring to their bottom line."

The companies were selected for developing and continuing to expand a significant part of their business in foreign markets, for increasing or maintaining jobs in Minnesota to support international sales, and for developing novel approaches for competing globally.

"These nine firms are a good example of the hard work and ingenuity that it takes to succeed in foreign markets," said Ed Dieter, acting executive director of the Minnesota Trade Office. "The Minnesota Trade Office is proud to partner with these companies and hundreds more to help them develop their global reach."

The 2010 Governor's International Trade Awards winners are:

**3M Company, St. Paul - 3M**, a diversified international company, produces products and services in many markets, including industrial and technology; health care; consumer office; display and graphics; and electro and communications.

**Ideal Aerosmith, East Grand Forks** - Ideal Aerosmith supplies precision inertial guidance test systems, flight motion simulators, aerospace test engineering services and contract manufacturing services to the aerospace industry.

**Leeds Forensic Systems, Inc., Minneapolis** - Leeds Forensics Systems manufactures comparison microscopes for firearms, toolmarks and trace evidence examiners.

**MOCON, Inc., Brooklyn Park** - The international manufacturing company produces instruments and markets testing services and consulting for measuring the permeation of gases and water vapor through barriers and films. Headquartered in Brooklyn Park, Mocon has operations in Texas, Colorado, Germany and China.

**Network Executive Software, Maple Grove** - Formed in 1999, the company provides computer software for high-speed data communications/wide area network (WAN) optimization.

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**ReconRobotics, Edina** - Formed in 2006, ReconRobotics manufactures tactical, micro-robotic systems used by military and law enforcement customers worldwide.

**Rosenbauer America LLC., Wyoming** - Rosenbauer America is an enterprise consisting of three companies - Central States, General Safety and Rosenbauer International -- with a combined history of more than 200 years in the firefighting and rescue vehicle field.

**Viracon, Owatonna** -An international company of Apogee Enterprises, Inc., Viracon produces high-performance glass products, including tempered, laminated, insulating, silk-screened and high-performance coatings.

**Knewton Soy Products, LLP, Good Thunder** - Knewton Soy Products is a family farm partnership specializing in the production, processing, sales and shipping of premium, identity preserved food grade soybeans and soybean products to both domestic and international markets.

Additional information about Minnesota World Trade Week 2010 is available at [www.PositivelyMinnesota.com](http://www.PositivelyMinnesota.com).