



MILLENNIALS IN MANUFACTURING

JULY 2020

MEET THE CLASS OF 2020

Meet the young innovators, creators, and makers at the forefront of New York State manufacturing technologies.

FUZEHUB'S MILLENNIALS IN MANUFACTURING AWARDS

Celebrating Young Professionals who are Driving Innovation in New York's Manufacturing Industry

As the rapid pace of technological change continues to accelerate, the manufacturing industry needs more young leaders who are prepared to constantly adapt and implement innovative solutions to drive growth. In 2019, FuzeHub, New York State's statewide New York Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) center, launched the Millennials in Manufacturing Awards to celebrate young professionals who are doing their part to strengthen New York State's manufacturing industry. By recognizing their achievements, we hope to encourage more people to pursue careers in manufacturing.

New York State manufacturing companies with under 500 employees were invited to nominate an employee between the ages of 25 and 39 holding a position as an engineer, technician, or another role directly related to manufacturing operations. FuzeHub is pleased to share this publication with you to introduce the 2020 winners of the Millennials in Manufacturing Awards.

148,000

Millennials employed in
New York State Manufacturing

4.5 MIL

Millennials employed in
Manufacturing in the U.S.

Source: 2019 data from Emsi for age cohorts 22-24, 25-34, and 35-44, with the last cohort to approximate the age 35-39 bracket



\$2,500 WINNER

JASON BIERWILER

PRODUCTION MANAGER

SEPAC, INC., ELMIRA, NY

AGE: 37

EDUCATION: KEUKA COLLEGE

Jason manages the manufacturing operations at SEPAC and the machining operations at a subsidiary, PLACID Industries. He uses his technical, interpersonal, and problem-solving skills to build quality into processes while optimizing workforce engagement.

Jason's responsibilities include meeting the demanding standards and specifications of customers with applications from outer space to the ocean deep.



\$2,500 WINNER

JACOB DUBOIS

OPERATIONS MANAGER

BUCKINGHAM MANUFACTURING,
BINGHAMTON, NY

AGE: 27

EDUCATION: THE COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT

Jacob supervises production control, purchasing, human resources, and manufacturing. He solves problems, improves quality and efficiency, and identifies opportunities for continued growth. He also attracts talent and establishes standards for hiring and training.

Jacob's strong communication skills enable him to manage and motivate diverse groups of people while meeting company-wide goals.

\$1,000 WINNERS



ERIC DUMA

Age: 29

Senior Product
Development Engineer
Hardinge
Education: RIT

Eric led PVA's successful efforts to design an emergency-use respirator for the fight against COVID-19. He applied what he learned from the FDA to his own automation and manufacturing expertise.



MATTHEW HONICKMAN

Age: 29

Machines
Chief Engineer
LC Drives

Education: Clarkson University

Matthew is the bridge between design, manufacturing, supply chain, and quality at LC Drives. He helped the company to build more than 20 manufacturing machines from the ground up.



PATRICK MAISEL

Age: 29

Continuous
Improvement Engineer
OptiMax Systems
Education: RIT

Patrick develops and optimizes systems that ensure the most efficient delivery of customer value. He played a key leadership role during an expansion that doubled the company's manufacturing space.



CHRISTOPHER NELSON

Age: 26

CEO
FiberTrap, LLC
Education: Dowling College

Christopher is FiberTrap's visionary and is responsible for implementing its plans. He worked closely with engineering to custom-build manufacturing equipment and is growing a team-oriented company.



MORIAH ROOT

Age: 29

Manufacturing
Engineer
Hardinge

Education: SUNY Oswego

Moriah has welcomed increasing levels of responsibility at Z-Axis and readily shares her knowledge of quality principles and practices. She leads by example and is committed to continuous improvement.

\$500 WINNERS

TYLER BENNETT

Age: 29
Manufacturing
Engineer
Hardinge

ASHLEY BURKE

Age: 29
VP of Behavioral Health
& Business Operations
Mozaic

ALBERTO CALDERON

Age: 28
Supplier Quality
Engineer
ConMed Corp.

BARRY CHUANG

Age: 36
CTO
Mechanistic Inc.

UDOKA EZE

Age: 24
Product
Engineer
Pvilion

SANDRA IBARRA

Age: 28
Supplier Quality
Engineer
ConMed Corp.

ADRIAN LOGAN

Age: 24
CTO
Nuravine

MADISON LYNDAKER

Age: 26
Quality
Engineer II
ConMed Corp.

JEFF NOWAK

Age: 26
Lead
Technician
V Technical Textiles, Inc.

ZHIHENG WU

Age: 28
Designer
Pvilion



ABOUT FUZEHUB

FuzeHub is a not-for-profit organization that connects New York's small and mid-sized manufacturing companies to the resources, programs and expertise they need for technology commercialization, innovation and business growth. We help companies navigate New York's robust network of industry experts at Manufacturing Extension Partners (MEP) centers, universities, economic development organizations and other providers. FuzeHub is the statewide New York MEP center, supported by Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology & Innovation (NYSTAR).

ABOUT NYSTAR

Empire State Development's Division of Science, Technology and Innovation (NYSTAR) advances technology innovation and commercialization in New York State. NYSTAR offers programs that assist companies from start-up through maturity, leveraging the state's unparalleled investment in world-class technology assets and expertise. It provides roughly \$55 million annually in funding to support over 70 centers that provide direct assistance to New York State companies-a network of vital assets for enabling technology- and manufacturing-led growth and job creation. NYSTAR and its partners are proud to contribute to New York's leadership in the global innovation economy.