



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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## **Northwest Florida Manufacturer named Manufacturer of the Year for Manufacturers with 101-250 Employees in the State of Florida**

At the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Manufacturers Summit and Marketplace on November 5 in West Palm Beach, FL the Manufacturers Association of Florida announced the winners of the 2015 Manufacturers and Distributors of the Year competition. Over the last several months, thirty-six judges narrowed the competition to twenty-one finalists in five categories. 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 toured finalists' facilities.

**Fort Walton Machining** of Fort Walton Beach won in Category 3 (101-250 Employees) – The company is a woman owned small business that is a recognized leader in the manufacturing, finishing, and assembly of custom designed, precision machined parts. The markets they serve include defense, aerospace, oil and gas, medical, and high tech commercial. They have been in business since 1987 and have grown from a two person organization to 198 employees. They have two locations, a manufacturing and a metal finishing facility both in Fort Walton Beach, FL.

The other winners were:

**Endoscopy Replacement Parts, Inc.** of Newberry (1-40 Employees) – The company has 13 employees. Established in 2005, they manufacture aftermarket endoscopy replacement parts and communicate and develop product availability based on customers and repair facilities' needs. A small percentage of their products are exported to Asia and the Pacific

**NRI of West Palm Beach** (41-100 Employees). The company has been the premier manufacturer of engineering solutions for quality, innovative composites that strengthen aging infrastructures for over 30 years. With 55 employees, they develop composite repair solutions for pipelines and infrastructure. They manufacture all their unique composite products within a single facility. Approximately 50% of their products are distributed to Asia, Brazil, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East.

Sparton of DeLeon Springs (250+ Employees). The company has been in business over 100 years. The Sparton facility in DeLeon Springs employs more than 500 people.

**Distributor (Gold) – Aeroturbine of Miramar.** The company offers its customers in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the Americas access to one of the world's largest and most modern pools of certified aircraft engines and parts. They also repair aircraft parts and engines and lease aircraft engines. They have an international sales force with offices in Singapore and London and warehouses on three continents, allowing them to ship anywhere in the world on short notice.

**Distributor (Silver) – ADI Metal of Fort Lauderdale.** The company, a certified woman business enterprise, distributes all kinds of metal in all shapes and sizes for marine and industrial uses. Aluminum, brass, bronze, copper, stainless steel, carbon steel and other exotic alloys are distributed to more than 70 countries.

