

PRESS RELEASE

October 13, 2003

Hubbardton Forge Honored at 5x5x5 Growth Awards in Vermont.

Five of Vermont's fastest growing businesses in five industry sectors, including Hubbardton Forge of Castleton VT, were honored in a reception held in Burlington VT on October 2nd. Governor James Douglas presented the awards.

The 5x5x5 Growth Awards celebrates the top 5 fastest growing Vermont businesses over the last 5 years, in each of 5 categories (Technology, Contracting, Retail, Wholesale, and Manufacturing.) Hubbardton Forge represented the top growth in the manufacturing sector, with 165% increase in sales between 1997 and 2002.

These awards are based on the data gathered by Vermont Business Magazine and published in the Vermont 100 +, an annual ranking of Vermont's top 100+ businesses. Hubbardton Forge is also listed in the top ten 15-year fastest growth companies, ranking second just behind Vermont Teddy Bear Company.

Hubbardton Forge co-founder and CEO George Chandler explained that one factor in the company's success has been the emphasis on "adding value to our customers. If we aren't close to the best supplier they are dealing with, they will go somewhere else. Everything we do is to increase the value we add to their business."

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