

PRESS RELEASE

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Hubbardton Forge Receives Recognitions for Growth and Leadership

Key Bank and Vermont Business Magazine have recently awarded Hubbardton Forge the 5x5x5 Award for being the #1 Fastest Growing Company in Vermont over the last 20-Years. This is the fifth year in a row that The Forge has come up in VBM's winners lists.

Hubbardton Forge attributes this award-winning growth to the dedication of its employees working collaboratively within an open books, open management, culture. Founders George Chandler and Reed Hampton have always strived to make The Forge to feel like an entrepreneurial family, where each member has a voice and an interest in the success of the company. Employees are encouraged to work collaboratively within and across departments, in an effort to maintain a stimulating work environment. Another rewarding aspect of the Hubbardton Forge culture is employee profit sharing. In years when business is strong, end of the year profits are divided up among employees. Last year, 220 Forge employees shared \$1.5 million. As a result of these programs and philosophies, employees at Hubbardton Forge share a sense of ownership and mutuality—the feeling that what they do each day has a direct impact on the company's success, and the knowledge that they will in turn share in the benefits of that success.

This open books, open management culture at Hubbardton Forge was recently given further recognition through the “Best Places to Work in Vermont” Award, granted by the Best Companies Group in Harrisburg, whose mission it is “to identify and recognize organizations that are leading the way in defining the employee experience of the 21st century.” As part of that accolade, The Forge has been given an in-depth analysis of their employee survey, the results of which will be used as a support tool when planning future growth.

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