

NEWS RELEASE

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October 14, 2004

EHMKE MANUFACTURING NAMED GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR

PHILADELPHIA—Ehmke Manufacturing Company, Inc. has been named Manufacturer of the Year by the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce. The Philadelphia-based maker of industrial fabrics will be honored at the Chamber's Small Business Excellence Awards gala on Friday, November 12, 2004 at the Hyatt Regency Philadelphia.

Celebrating its 75th Anniversary in 2004, Ehmke Manufacturing is a diversified technical fabric manufacturer credited with designing and fabricating the first covers for major league baseball fields. The company's business philosophy is rooted in its commitment to provide creative solutions to meet its clients' specialized needs. Ehmke's product line ranges from military aircraft fabric items to athletic equipment bags and field covers. Its client base comprises industry leaders such as The Boeing Company, the hometown favorite Philadelphia Phillies, local area high schools and colleges, all of whom depend on Ehmke's technical expertise and reputation for excellence.

Ehmke Manufacturing has worked closely with the United States Department of Defense and other government agencies to meet stringent design, production, quality, shipping and delivery requirements for the products they need. The quality of Ehmke's work is evident in its revenue growth pattern. The company has seen total sales increase more than 400% from 2000-2004.

Over the years, government agencies and industry trade organizations have recognized Ehmke Manufacturing for its outstanding customer service and products. The Small Business Administration singled out the company as its 2002 Subcontractor of the Year. The Industrial Fabrics Association International has honored Ehmke for five consecutive years with awards for product excellence.

Ehmke's Manufacturer of the Year award is sponsored by the Delaware Valley Industrial Resource Center. The Small Business Excellence Awards dinner-dance will be held on Friday, November 12, 2004 from 6-11 P.M. at the Hyatt Regency Philadelphia. WPVI-TV Consumer Reporter Nydia Han will serve as master of ceremonies.

Small Business Excellence Awards are presented to businesses with fewer than 100 employees. The honorees were chosen by the Small Business Excellence Awards Committee, which considers a nominee's achievements, vitality, creativity, stability and impact. The winners are also judged on non-revenue generating qualities such as their civic involvement and responsibility, mentoring, employee recognition, and customer service.

The 2004 Small Business Excellence Awards are sponsored by Wachovia Bank, Bank of America, Ben Franklin Technology Partners, Blank Rome LLP, WPVI-TV, Commerce Bank, Delaware Valley Industrial Resource Center, Innovation Philadelphia, Philadelphia Industrial Development Corp., and PNC Bank.

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About the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce consists of 5,500 members serving approximately 175,000 Philadelphia area employees. In 2003, the Chamber merged with Greater Philadelphia First and united the Greater Philadelphia business community under one organization with a renewed purpose. The "new" Chamber has set forth an agenda that includes more aggressive economy-building measures, the attraction and retention of businesses, and repositioning the Greater Philadelphia region as an international center of commerce. In addition, the Chamber hosts more than 150 programs and seminars throughout the year, reaching out to small, large and mid-sized businesses, as well as initiatives targeting women and the international and educational communities. The Chamber is also an active advocate on behalf of its members for a variety of issues on the local, state and federal levels. More information about the Chamber can be found online at www.philachamber.com.