



NEWS RELEASE

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Alexandria Extrusion Company Named As Tekne Award Finalist

Premier awards program recognizes Minnesota companies and individuals for technology innovation and leadership

Alexandria, MN, September 15, 2006 – Alexandria Extrusion Company has been named as a finalist for a 2006 Tekne Award. Minnesota's annual Tekne awards recognize companies and individuals who have shown superior technology innovation and leadership.

The Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA) and Minnesota Technology, Inc. (MTI), in partnership with LifeScience Alley, join together to recognize technology innovators and leaders who have made lasting contributions to enhancing the quality of life and competitiveness of Minnesota. The awards are separated into both emerging and established company categories that recognize the best and brightest in the innovation, development, education, commercialization and management of technology.

Tom Schabel, president of Alexandria Extrusion Company commented "At AEC, we focus on providing a cost competitive solution for our customers and by doing so we understand how critical our investment in high-tech, automated manufacturing processes can be to our customers' bottom line. While embracing these boundless benefits of technology, we also know – and our customers affirm – that the most valuable resource we provide to the marketplace is a high quality and continually trained workforce."

Schabel explained, "Our commitment to advanced manufacturing education and training, continuous improvements, one-of-kind Certified Extruder program and providing our customers with the highest quality service is exemplified every hour of our operation. At AEC, our tagline is 'People Making A Difference'. We take every opportunity to make our tagline a testament of our service and product quality delivered to our customers."

Kate Rubin, president of MHTA stated that "Minnesota's Tekne Award finalists are recognized as experts and innovators in their fields. Because our state is privileged to serve as a home to many leading high-tech companies, it's an honor to be singled out and named Tekne Award finalist. It's companies like

[insert company name] that continue to make Minnesota a great place to live and work."

Wayne A. Pletcher, Ph. D., president & CEO of Minnesota Technology, Inc. added: "We are proud to honor [insert company name] as a 2006 Tekne Award finalist and are pleased to recognize their leadership in the industry."

The 2006 Tekne Awards will be presented on Thursday, October 26th at the Minneapolis Convention Center, beginning with a reception and silent auction at 4:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. and the awards ceremony at 7:00 p.m.

Fifty-one finalists have been named in 17 categories. A list of all finalists and categories can be found at www.tekneawards.org.

About Alexandria Extrusion Company

Alexandria Extrusion Company is an ISO 9001:2000 certified supplier of precision aluminum extrusions, including advanced engineering services and innovative value-added operations. They offer custom aluminum extrusion products with the highest degree of quality and tightest tolerances afforded through the aluminum extrusion process.

With 40 years of experience, Alexandria Extrusion Company (AEC) provides assistance beginning with prototype development through final production. The end result: an aluminum extrusion that effectively meets their customers' exact aluminum extrusion specifications.

A market driven mentality and precision manufacturing focus has created a great opportunity for the company to invest in highly automated, state of the art equipment to support their markets' highly precise and rigorous requirements. Alexandria Extrusion Company is known for developing and investing in 40 years of innovative manufacturing practices and holds true to their preferred, historical existence in the aluminum extrusion industry. They have become a market driven organization by creating solutions to market needs, while providing domestically enhanced manufacturing processes and systems to serve their customers globally.

About MTI

Minnesota Technology, Inc. (MTI) helps drive the small to mid-size manufacturing sector by selling greater efficiency tools, productivity and growth solutions, and cutting edge information at competitive rates. MTI operates as a private 501(C)3 organization, collaborating with the federal government, to provide a public service that stimulates business and economic development in Minnesota's manufacturing sector. MTI's staff are competent,

trained professionals with expertise in leading edge productivity tools and growth solutions, committed to making Minnesota a stronger player in the global manufacturing matrix.

About MHTA

The Minnesota High Tech Association accelerates the growth, sustainability and global competitiveness of Minnesota's technology-based economy through public policy advocacy, member collaboration and education, and community outreach. MHTA is the only membership organization that represents Minnesota's entire technology-based economy. MHTA members include organizations of every size – involved in virtually every aspect of technology creation, production, application and education in Minnesota. MHTA works in partnership with AeA, which represents Minnesota's technology organizations nationally. More information on the MHTA can be found at www.mhta.org.

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