

Oklahoma Department of Commerce Local Companies Honored For Export Achievement



Joe Beffer of Midwestern Manufacturing Company accepting award

Apr. 25, 2007 -- Exports are big business for Oklahoma companies. That was the word from Oklahoma Secretary of Commerce and Tourism, Natalie Shirley, who today presented four local companies--Callidus Technologies, Melton Truck Lines, Inc., **Midwestern Manufacturing Company**, and Qual-Tron, Inc.--with the U.S. Commercial Service's Export Achievement Certificate.

The Certificate program is designed to showcase the important role that exporting plays in our national economy, to highlight the contributions made by exporters to their local communities, and to recognize new and existing exporters.

"With 95 percent of the world's consumers living outside of the United States, the economic security of our nation is increasingly dependent on exporting," Shirley says. "In many respects, our domestic market is a mature market for our goods and services. If we are to continue to grow as an economy, we must look outward, to new markets where consumers seek the best products and services in the world--those made in the United States. This is exemplified by the export efforts of these four Oklahoma companies."

Secretary Shirley presented the certificates during the 24th Annual Oklahoma World Trade Conference at the Oklahoma City University Meinders School of Business.

Callidus Technologies, a manufacturer of combustion and environmental equipment and systems based in Tulsa, operates in Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Europe, and Australia and has successfully penetrated the markets of 24 countries.

Founded in 1954, Melton Truck Lines, based in Tulsa, is one of the largest flatbed trucking companies in the nation. Melton has pioneered several industry firsts, such as through-trailer service to/from Mexico and Computer Assisted Dispatch, operating a fleet of more than 900 tractors and 1,800 trailers.

Family-owned and -operated since its beginning in 1953, Tulsa-based Midwestern Manufacturing developed a product to serve as an alternative to the complicated, unreliable mechanical pipelayers originally used in the pipeline industry. Midwestern Manufacturing has converted more than 4,500 tractors to safer, more efficient hydraulic pipelayers.

Tulsa-based Qual-Tron, Inc., an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) of battery operated, remotely deployable intrusion-detection systems, These systems may be used for special operations missions, border surveillance, force protection, intrusion detection, counter drug operations, and other Homeland Security applications (refineries, LNG storage, historical sites, etc).

The U.S. Commercial Service is a U.S. Department of Commerce agency that helps small-and medium-sized businesses sell their products and services globally. The U.S. Commercial Service's network includes 107 U.S. Export Assistance Centers throughout the United States and 161 international offices in 83 countries.