

MEP Awards Mathew Brothers Manufacturing Excellence Award

The Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Maine MEP) announced that [Mathews Brothers](#), a 156-year old window manufacturer with a history of innovation, is the recipient of this year's Maine MEP Manufacturing Excellence Award. The award was presented at a ceremony at the Mathews Brothers manufacturing facility in Belfast on June 15. The award is presented each year to a Maine company that has demonstrated outstanding leadership, vision and manufacturing excellence.

Brian Hodges, Deputy Commissioner of DECD at MEP's award ceremony for the Mathew Brothers.



"The 2010 Maine MEP Manufacturing Excellence Award reflects updated criteria which were modified this year to reflect changing global circumstances. In a recessionary and highly competitive global economy, manufacturing excellence is no longer the only attribute necessary for success," explained Maine MEP President Rod Rodrigue. "To survive today, American manufacturers must embrace cutting edge management and production techniques that control costs while improving production efficiency, quality and on-time delivery."

"This year's award recipient exemplifies what it takes to succeed in the face of today's global challenges," said Brian Hodges, DECD's Deputy Commissioner, who helped facilitate the ceremony. "In the world of cutting edge manufacturing, these attributes are known as *Next Generation Manufacturing*."

Next Generation Manufacturing (NGM) refers to a framework of strategies developed by industry leaders and the Manufacturing Extension Partnership program that represent the essential strategies for driving growth and achieving competitive world-class performance. The Maine MEP Manufacturing Excellence Award now recognizes manufacturers, such as Mathews Brothers, that have undertaken the necessary strategies to position their operations for growth.