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Press Release

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Airframes Alaska Named Manufacturer of the Year

October 2, 2015 JUNEAU — The State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development is pleased to announce that Airframes Alaska LLC of Chugiak has been selected as the Made in Alaska's Manufacturer of the Year. The award highlights the importance of the statewide and national manufacturing sector and will be presented to Airframes Alaska at a ceremony later this month.

"Airframes Alaska has earned a reputation in Alaska and around the world as a leading manufacturer of small aircraft parts," said Chris Hladick, commissioner of the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development. "The company is a valuable contributor to Alaska's economy—producing quality goods and putting Alaskans to work. Airframes Alaska is an inspiring success story, and we're proud to honor the company with this award, especially today, which is National Manufacturing Day."

Airframes Alaska is a well-respected airplane parts manufacturer for bush planes in Alaska and beyond. Among their many product offerings are the well-known Alaskan Bushwheels, Super Cub fuselages, tailwheel assemblies and heavy duty landing gear components. The company produces all of its products in Alaska, and employs more than 40 Alaskans at their shop in Chugiak.

"The inspiration for our products are the hard-working bush pilots of Alaska. It is only fitting that we choose to manufacture these products here - with Alaskan engineers, Alaskan welders and Alaskan craftsmen," said Sean McLaughlin, General Manager of Airframes Alaska. "As a global company, we market this Alaskan aviation expertise to the world. It is a huge honor to have been selected for this award."

Since 1991, the Manufacturer of the Year award has been presented annually to a Made in Alaska permit holder demonstrating hard work, business growth, job creation, innovation, and community spirit. The Made in Alaska program is used to identify and promote the purchase of products manufactured or crafted in Alaska, ranging from small gift items to large industrial products. The program, administered by the Division of Economic Development, was launched during 1985 and currently has nearly 1000 active participants. More information about the Made in Alaska program is available at madeinalaska.org. National Manufacturing Day is a celebration of modern manufacturing meant to inspire the next generation of manufacturers. It occurs annually on the first Friday in October. Learn more at mfgday.com.

Housed within Alaska State Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, the Division of Economic Development supports the growth and diversification of Alaska's economy through policy, promotion, financing, and business assistance. For additional information about the division, please visit commerce.alaska.gov/web/DED. To learn more about DCCED and its other agencies, please visit commerce.alaska.gov.

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