

BENCHMADE RECOGNIZED FOR MFG DAY 2016

Oregon City, Ore., October 5, 2016 -- In honor of MFG Day 2016, Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition (PNDC), an association of companies in the defense and security industries that fosters economic growth in the manufacturing community, partnered with the AKT Manufacturing team to award a Certificate of Recognition to Benchmade of Oregon City, Oregon.

Benchmade is one of America's foremost producers of modern high tech combat and pocket knives. Founded in 1988, Benchmade set out to make the best knives in the world. They continue to focus on innovation, customer needs, responsible business ethics, and operations to produce the highest quality knives.

AKT is a sponsor of [MFG Day 2016](#), a national celebration of the manufacturing industry demonstrating the potential of modern manufacturing, and the opportunity for careers. "It's a pleasure to recognize a manufacturer like Benchmade who does such a great job acknowledging their exceptional talent throughout their company. Their willingness to support and engage in organizations like PNDC and many others in their community is admirable," said Chad Summers, AKT Manufacturing Business Advisor.

A certificate of recognition was presented to Jon de Asis, President of Benchmade and 5 others on the executive team by Summers and PNDC Program Director Kate Kanapeaux on October 5, 2016.

As this year's recipient of our Certificate of Recognition for Manufacturing Day 2016, AKT will make a donation in the name of Benchmade to the following three organizations to help support their mission and contribute a positive impact to the future of manufacturing:

- [Clackamas Academy of Industrial Sciences](#) (CAIS), providing students an innovative, contextual learning environment focused on Manufacturing Technologies.

- Impact NW: [Pathways to Manufacturing](#), an incubator for high school aged children designed to address industry workforce needs, help lower the drop-out rate, and provide clear pathways to rewarding careers in manufacturing.
- [For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology](#) (FIRST), showing students of every age that science, technology, and problem-solving are not only fun and rewarding, but are proven paths to successful careers and a bright future for us all.

MFG Day is officially celebrated across the United States on October 7, 2016.

PNDC and AKT Manufacturing are actively involved in the manufacturing sector. Both organizations strive to provide resources, education and assistance to help manufacturers take on the unique challenges and opportunities they face.

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-- PHOTOS ARE AVAILABLE --

For nearly four decades, AKT Manufacturing has served manufacturers across the western United States with industry-specific business counsel and services. **AKT CPAs, Advisors, and Consultants** is ranked in the Top 100 Accounting Firms nationally, providing tax, accounting, and advisory and consulting services to businesses and individuals. The AKT Family of Companies is recognized as one of the Top 10 Best of the Best Accounting Firms by Inside Public Accounting, Best Places to Work, Healthiest Employer and CNBC's Top 100 Wealth Management Firms nationally. Serving clients throughout the west from locations in Oregon, California, and Alaska, AKT has industry expertise working with construction, manufacturing, healthcare, nonprofit, telecommunications, food processing, agribusiness, and a variety of privately held companies. Affiliates include AKT LLP, CPAs and Business Consultants, AKT Wealth Advisors LP, AKT Benefit Advisors LP, and AKT Retirement Plan Services LP.

Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition (PNDC) is a 501(c)(6) association for Northwest defense and security industry businesses. PNDC focuses on strengthening our members' business growth, our region's economy, and our nation's security through training, one-on-one counseling, business-to-business networking, and advocacy.

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