



Category Leader
Advanced Manufacturing

Tech 50 Award Winner

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For the past eight years, the Pittsburgh Technology Council has recognized and celebrated the region's fastest-growing and most innovative technology companies through its annual Tech 50 Awards.

Scores of entries were again received this year, with finalists and category leaders selected in five key categories, along with a CEO of the Year recipient. What follows are summaries of all category leaders and finalists in each category – every one of which demonstrates the qualities and results that make the greater Pittsburgh region an ever-growing, ever-stronger center of technological innovation and advancement.

Advanced Manufacturing

Co-Category leader: Bakery Barn, Inc.

Bakery Barn is the only company that develops and manufactures great-tasting, healthy baked products that meet or exceed the federal Food and Drug Administration guidelines for "high protein." Its soft batch products have been distributed worldwide through domestically and internationally branded companies for the past three years.

Bakery Barn produces approximately 10,000 pounds of cookies every day, and is on track to ship 750,000 dozen cookies for the year. "The company began in my eight-foot-square kitchen in 2001," said CEO Sean Perich. "I had absolutely no culinary or baking experience at all. I simply could not eat another sports (energy) bar without wanting to cry. I developed a chocolate chip cookie that had 24 grams of protein."

Co-Category Leader: United States Steel Corporation

United States Steel Corporation is an integrated steel producer with major production operations in the U.S. and Europe. Using state-of-the-art processes and controls, U.S. Steel converts iron ore and coke into high value-added steels primarily used in the automotive, construction, container and appliance industries.

US Steel remains committed to making steel, its core focus for more than 100 years; to strengthening its position in the global marketplace to remain world competitive; and to building value for its stakeholders.

"We strive to be a leader in the steel industry through our consistent research and development and innovative technology," said CEO John P. Surma, Jr. "We are a leader in the development of new chemistries of lighter, stronger and more formable steels that contribute to the efficiency and safety of automobiles and to the service of society."