



Media Contact:

Kelsey O'Connor
Marketing and Communications Director
Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI)

515-235-0571
koconnor@iowaabi.org
www.iowaabi.org

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TOP 4 FINALISTS ANNOUNCED IN COOLEST THING MADE IN IOWA COMPETITION

DES MOINES, May 21, 2024 – The Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) and MidWestOne Bank announced on Friday the Top 4 products advancing to the next round in the Coolest Thing Made in Iowa competition. The four Iowa-made products each won a head-to-head matchup in the Top 8 bracket-style tournament.

Tens of thousands of votes have been cast during the competition so far, highlighting the diverse manufacturing industry within the state, which contributes roughly \$38 billion to the state's economy each year.

To kick off the inaugural competition, over 80 products were nominated. Following a popular vote round and bracket-style rounds, Iowans have narrowed down the field to the Top 4.

The 2024 Top 4 Coolest Things Made in Iowa:

- Vermeer ZR5-1200 self-propelled baler (Vermeer Corporation, Pella)
- Musco Sports Lighting (Musco Lighting, Oskaloosa)
- Custom Built Pipe Organ (Dobson Pipe Organ Builders Ltd., Lake City)
- Safe T Home (Sukup Manufacturing Co., Sheffield)

The final round of voting to determine the Coolest Thing Made in Iowa began on Monday, May 20. Individuals can vote once per day, per device until midnight on Wednesday, May 29.

The winner will be crowned live at ABI's Taking Care of Business Conference on Wednesday, June 5 at 12pm.

Post-announcement interviews are welcome and encouraged. Credentialed media is also welcome at the event with prior notice.

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The Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) has been the voice of Iowa business since 1903. Its mission is to provide a strong, unified voice to business and industry on issues affecting Iowa employers. ABI is comprised of member companies representing all industries and sizes in Iowa's 99 counties. ABI members employ more than 330,000 Iowans.