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BETE Fog Nozzle in Greenfield recognized for supporting employees, public in pandemic



Matt Bete, CEO of BETE Fog Nozzle, and Tom Fitch, president, pose for a photo outside their Greenfield business after being given the 2021 Workforce Leader Award from the MassHire Franklin Hampshire Workforce Board. Contributed photo/Soulful Life Photography



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GREENFIELD — A local, family-owned manufacturing company was recently recognized by the MassHire Franklin Hampshire Workforce Board for its role in supporting its employees and the public throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It was a great achievement,” commented Diana Connelly, director of marketing at [BETE Fog Nozzle \(https://www.bete.com/\)](https://www.bete.com/), winner of MassHire’s Workforce Leader Award. “Everybody that got together during COVID just shows the loyalty of the employees, going above and beyond what they normally do to really support the work of the community in times like this.”

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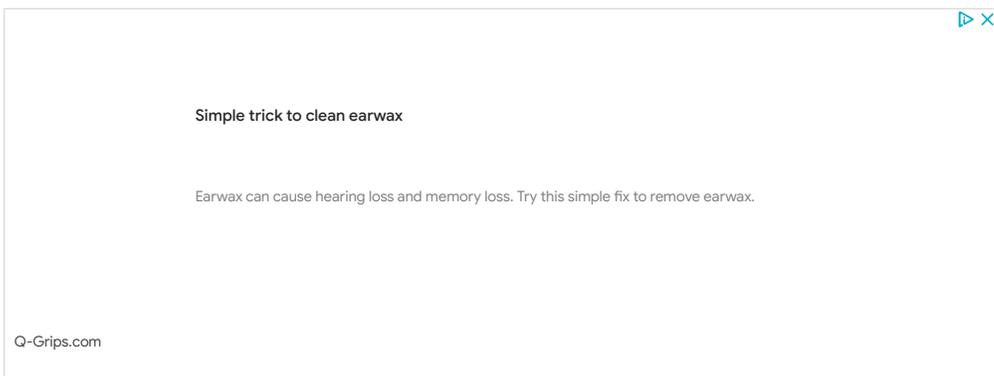
The fourth generation family-owned company designs and manufactures spray process solutions and employs more than 180 people at its 50 Greenfield St. location.

With its Workforce Leader Award, the MassHire Franklin Hampshire Workforce Board aimed to recognize companies that provided support throughout the pandemic with an eye to the health and safety of its employees and the public, and that were able to continue operations.

BETE Fog Nozzle demonstrated “exemplary leadership in all of the award criteria,” a MassHire press release reads, noting that when the pandemic shuttered businesses in March 2020, the company provided paid furloughs to all of its employees.

Additionally, the company teamed up (<https://www.recorder.com/Automated-system-developed-to-efficiently-disinfect-school-buses-36279362>) last summer with F.M. Kuzmeskus Inc., a Gill-based bus company that works with school districts throughout Franklin County, to develop a more efficient, safer method for disinfecting buses this year.

“We are pleased and proud to be able to shine a spotlight on BETE Fog Nozzle and let the community know what an exemplary company we have in our midst,” said Workforce Board Executive Director Rebecca Bialecki.



BETE Fog Nozzle is also a founding supporter of the seven-year-old Manufacturing Skills Initiative (MSI) training partnership between Greenfield Community College, the Workforce Board and Career Center, Franklin County Technical School and other area manufacturers. In fact, BETE has hired more than a dozen graduates of the 12-week MSI training program.

“With a strong workforce, we will bring in more business,” BETE Fog Nozzle President Tom Fitch explained in the release. “With more business, we will have a stronger workforce.”

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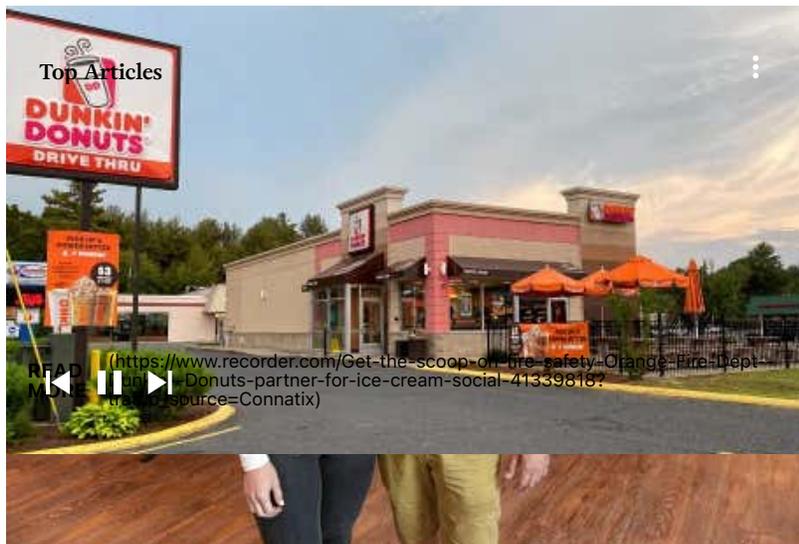


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At a presentation ceremony last week, Fitch said the award is for all BETE employees. In particular, he praised the staff of engineers and technicians who designed the school bus fog nozzle in just two weeks.

“If it were not for our COVID protocols, we would have everyone here celebrating,” he said. “It has been an extraordinarily difficult year, and I am thankful for the BETE work family pulling together and getting it done.”

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