

Press Release



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VARC Named as Finalist for Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year

Viroqua, WI: Jan 29, 2025 – VARC has been named a finalist for the 36th Annual Manufacturer of the Year (MOTY) Awards. VARC is among the six finalists in the Mega Category (500+ employees).

Founded in 1975, VARC is celebrating their 50th Anniversary of being in business this year. VARC operates a comprehensive subcontract manufacturing operation through 7 site facilities in Wisconsin, spanning from La Crosse to Racine. Those production contracts fuel VARC's employment training programming for hundreds of individuals with disabilities throughout Wisconsin.

VARC is a strategic partner with [business services](#) that help businesses keep manufacturing in America. By supplying the labor force for contract work to companies wishing to meet demanding deadlines, those businesses are more productive and stay competitive. With seven production facilities, VARC packages medical devices, P.O.P. displays, and has capabilities in blister sealing, heat sealing, poly bagging, packaging & labeling, assembly, warehousing, fulfillment, and is GMP compliant and FDA Certified for food grade packaging. Businesses wishing to learn more can [contact VARC](#).

Today, VARC serves over 1,000 individuals with disabilities across Wisconsin, with operations spanning 13 total locations. VARC's production facilities partner with commercial businesses statewide, providing a diverse range of employment opportunities. Their inclusive employment model stands out by integrating individuals with and without disabilities into meaningful work environments. This model not only fosters community and personal growth but also highlights their commitment to diversity and inclusion. With the guidance of Prevocational Trainers, clients receive personalized training and support to build employment skills, set goals, and achieve greater independence. Once prepared, many individuals leverage VARC's [Supported Employment](#) placement programming to gain other jobs within their broader communities.

The [MOTY program](#), sponsored by Baker Tilly, Michael Best & Friedrich LLP, and [Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce](#) (WMC), recognizes the state's top manufacturers of all sectors and sizes for innovations, philanthropy, technological advances, commitment to customer satisfaction and the quality jobs they create. The winners will be announced at an awards banquet on Feb. 20, 2025 at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee, WI.

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VARC President/CEO Elizabeth Filter receives recognition plaque from WMC Leadership on VARC's nomination for MOTY.

From left to right: MOTY Headline Sponsor and WMC Secretary David Krutz from Michael Best & Friedrich, LLP; VARC President/CEO Elizabeth Filter; WMC Board President, Chris Drees; WMC President/CEO Kurt Bauer.



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