## **Brancel Recognizes Importance of Ag Manufacturing**

Release Date: October 17, 2013

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MADISON – Governor Scott Walker has proclaimed October as Manufacturing Month. Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) Secretary Ben Brancel visited VES Environmental Solutions, LLC in Chippewa Falls to recognize the importance of agricultural manufacturing to Wisconsin.

"This October we highlight the impact of manufacturing to Wisconsin's economy," said Brancel. "Wisconsin is home to an abundance of agricultural technology, expertise and equipment that contributes to the success of farmers in our state and around the world."

Wisconsin's manufacturing sector employs more than 450,000 workers and contributes nearly \$50 billion to the state's economic input. There are approximately 9,400 manufacturing employers across Wisconsin.

"VES Environmental Solutions, LLC is one example of an agricultural company that is using research to develop and manufacture products that will benefit agriculture," explained Brancel. "The more than 450,000 Wisconsin manufacturing workers allow quality products to be sold here in the United States and beyond, and contributed to the state's \$11.7 billion of international exports in the first half of 2013."

VES Environmental Solutions, LLC is the world's fastest growing ventilation, lighting and cow comfort products company that offers products for dairy, hog and poultry operations and greenhouse structures. The North American sales and manufacturing operations are overseen by the corporate headquarters in Chippewa Falls, and international market support is provided by VES Europe, VES Canada and VES China. To learn more about VES, visit <u>http://www.vesenvironmentalsolutions.com/</u>.

"One in ten jobs in Wisconsin is related to agriculture, including manufacturing," added Secretary Brancel. "Agricultural manufacturing in Wisconsin has a very bright future, and I encourage people to learn more about the great career possibilities."

Visit <u>www.wimanufacturingmonth.org</u> to learn more about Manufacturing Month. Connect with DATCP on Twitter at <u>twitter.com/widatcp</u> or Facebook at <u>facebook.com/widatcp</u>.

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