Innovation Research Interchange (IRI) Celebrates Multiple Awards

**Philadelphia, May 24, 2023** – The Innovation Research Interchange (IRI), an association of industry leaders dedicated to accelerating innovation and top-line growth, is delighted to announce that several IRI members and key individuals have been honored with prestigious awards. These awards recognize exceptional achievements and leadership in various areas of innovation, sustainability, and corporate citizenship. The recognition was presented during the renowned IRI Awards Dinner held in Philadelphia on May 24, 2023.

Dr. D. Alexa Dembek, the esteemed Chief Technology & Sustainability Officer of DuPont, was named the recipient of the IRI Innovation Leadership Award. This award acknowledges Dr. Dembek's outstanding leadership in driving innovation and transformation, contributing significantly to DuPont, the industry, and society as a whole. Her visionary work in advancing environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices has positioned DuPont as a leader in sustainability, circular economy, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I) initiatives.

DuPont was further honored with the IRI Excellence Award for Member Engagement, recognizing the company's commitment to actively participate in the IRI community. By sharing expertise, experiences, and success stories, DuPont has inspired and influenced fellow member organizations, fostering a collaborative environment of learning and growth. DuPont's engagement in collaborative research projects, conferences, and workshops has played a vital role in tackling industry-wide challenges and shaping IRI's strategic initiatives.

Lam Research, a global leader in semiconductor manufacturing equipment, received the IRI Excellence Award for its outstanding Culture of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I). Lam Research's comprehensive programs, such as employee resource groups, mentorship initiatives, and unconscious bias training, have created an inclusive work environment that celebrates diversity and attracts top talent from diverse backgrounds. This award recognizes Lam Research's commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive workplace where every individual can thrive.

The Lubrizol Corporation, a renowned company specializing in sustainable chemistry, was honored with the IRI Excellence Award in Digital and Technological Innovation for its groundbreaking Q.life virtual testing and data analytics system. This innovative solution empowers product development teams to accelerate innovation, reduce time to market, and enhance product performance through advanced modeling, simulation, and machine learning. Lubrizol's Q.life Engine enables real-time simulation, analysis, and optimization, driving efficiency, speed, and cost-effectiveness across various industries.

Michelman, a global leader in sustainable chemistry, received the IRI Excellence Award in Corporate Citizenship for its outstanding commitment to sustainability and driving the adoption of sustainable practices. Michelman's dedication to sustainability is deeply embedded in its products, research, and corporate culture. By embracing sustainable practices and collaborating with industry stakeholders, Michelman has made remarkable contributions towards a more sustainable future.

PPG Industries, a renowned coatings, paints, and specialty materials company, was recognized with the IRI Excellence Award in Scientific Advancement for its groundbreaking Copper Armor Antimicrobial Paint. This innovative solution, developed in partnership with Corning Incorporated's Guardiant copper technology, provides durable and long-lasting protection against viruses and bacteria on painted surfaces. The Copper Armor Antimicrobial Paint has the potential to significantly enhance hygiene practices and reduce the risk of infections across various environments.

"These prestigious awards from the IRI highlight the exceptional work and commitment of our members in driving innovation, sustainability, and corporate citizenship," said Ed Bernstein, IRI Executive Director and Vice President of the National Association of Manufacturers. "We are very happy to have this chance to recognize and reward our member’s amazing dedication to creating solutions that address the world's most pressing challenges while making a positive impact on our society and the environment."

About the Innovation Research Interchange (IRI):

The Innovation Research Interchange – a division of the National Association of Manufacturing - is an influential organization dedicated to the advancement of technological innovation and research. Since its establishment in 1938, IRI has fostered collaboration among industry leaders, facilitating knowledge sharing and promoting excellence in research and development. For more information, please visit www.iriweb.org.