



PORTLAND DISTRICT

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Portland-based Manufacturer Named 2023 SBA Oregon Exporter of the Year

AcraDyne, a Division of AIMCO, Takes Top Honors

PORTLAND, Ore. – The winner of the 2023 U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Exporter of the Year is AcraDyne, led by AIMCO President and CEO W. Douglas Hall.

Founded in 1970, AIMCO is a leading supplier of pneumatic power tools and mechanized assembly systems that provides solutions for critical fastening assembly for a wide range of industries. It's manufacturing division, AcraDyne, produces cutting-edge and complete lines of D/C Controlled tools and Data Management Systems that are specifically designed for critical fastening applications that demand superior performance and durability. Its line of Extreme the High Torque Series Bolting tools plays a major role for fulfilling the ever-expanding bolting requirements of the green energy sector. Their products are designed and assembled in the Portland, Oregon and exported across the globe.

The SBA Oregon Exporter of the Year honors individuals for their success and dedication to exporting products or services. Winners are selected based on increased sales, profit, growth, employment (or combination thereof) attributable to international sales; Effective or innovative solutions to export-related challenges; effective use of Federal and/or State government trade promotion or financing programs and proactive steps to assist other U.S. small businesses and/or their community.

During this year's [National Small Business Week](#), April 30 to May 6, 2023, the U.S. Small Business Administration will spotlight the resilience of America's entrepreneurs, who are doing their part to power our nation's historic economic comeback. And we'll be sharing important information about the many services and programs the U.S. Small Business Administration offers to help start and grow your business, create 21st century jobs, drive innovation and increase America's global competitiveness.

This year's event will honor the nation's 33 million small businesses for their perseverance, ingenuity, triumphs and creativity. And the SBA, along with valued small business partners, will share important information about the many programs and services available to help businesses start and grow, continue to power our economic growth, strengthen our supply chains and deliver the products and services Americans depend on every day.

The National Small Business Week events will also include access to critical federal resources, opportunities for new business strategies, opportunities to meet other business owners and chat with industry experts. NSBW will include honoring small businesses around the country, educational sessions, online business resources and exciting speakers. Highlights of the week will include an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., a four-city roadshow tour, and a virtual summit where small business owners can visit virtual booths to develop one-on-one connections with public and private sector partners to create opportunities for collaboration and information-sharing in real-time.

“These incredible entrepreneurs show the vibrancy and grit of our nation’s small businesses,” said SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman. “From Main Street to manufacturing hubs and tech centers, they are powering our economy. We hope their stories inspire and motivate the next generation of entrepreneurs.”

“The spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship in our small business community is part of what makes life in the Pacific Northwest so special,” said SBA Portland District Director Martin Golden. “Doug Hall represent the thousands of small business leaders and owners who dedicate themselves every day to building a better life for their families, employees and are a source of strength for their communities.”

Doug joined AIMCO in 1978 working part-time in their Sales Department. In 1979, Doug was promoted to Regional Sales Manager for the company’s North-west Region in 1979 and was promoted to Divisional Sales Manager in 1981 for the company’s Eastern Division in Chicago. Doug returned to the Pacific Northwest as the company’s executive vice president in 1986 before assuming the role of president and chief executive officer in 1994. Today, AIMCO offers one of the most comprehensive product portfolios serving customers in the industries of Automotive, Agriculture/Off-road, Wind Energy, Aerospace, Appliance, Electronics, Nuclear, Medical, and General Assembly. AIMCO also has an office in Chihuahua, Mexico with 33 employees to support the South American market. AIMCO has become a leading importer, exporter and manufacturer of industrial power tools with 67 employees and exporting to more than 40 countries.

[The State Trade Expansion Program \(STEP\)](#) grant helped the company reach out to new markets as it used these funds to participate in trade shows in Germany and Southeast Asia in 2018, 2019 and 2022. The STEP grant program has helped thousands of small businesses obtain grants and find customers in the international marketplace since 2011. Through awards to U.S. states and territories, STEP helps small businesses overcome obstacles to exporting by providing grants to cover costs associated with entering and expanding into international markets. To date, over \$200 million has been awarded to assist in growing the volume and value of small business exports.

“On behalf of all our associates and partners, we are extremely honored to be chosen as Oregon's Small Business Exporter of the year,” said Doug Hall. “The growth of AcraDyne, AIMCO's Portland-based manufacturing company, has allowed us to expand globally, exporting our high-capability tools to more than 40 countries. This success has been a long journey and we have faced many challenges along the way to get to the position we are today. We are very grateful for this recognition as it validates that we are on the right path.”

Award winners from the SBA Portland District will be individually recognized throughout National Small Business Week to include the Oregon Small Business Person of the Year, Nano Business of the Year, Family-Owned Small Business of the Year, Small Business Champion and the Portland District Director's Award for Excellence.

About National Small Business Week

For more than 60 years, the President of the United States has issued a proclamation announcing National Small Business Week, which recognizes the critical contributions of America's entrepreneurs and small business owners. More than half of Americans either own or work for a small business, and they create about two out of every three new jobs in the U.S. each year. As part of National Small Business Week, the U.S. Small Business Administration takes the opportunity to highlight the impact of outstanding entrepreneurs, small business owners, and others from all 50 states and U.S. territories. Every day, they're working to grow small businesses, create 21st century jobs, drive innovation, and increase America's global competitiveness.

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About the U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow, or expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov. The **Portland District** serves Oregon and southwest Washington with its office location in Portland.
