

*For Immediate Release, with photo*

**Contact:** Joshua Lybolt, Director  
Northwest Indiana SBDC  
219-644-3513  
lybolt@isbdc.org

Deana Lecy, Director of Sales and Marketing  
Falk-PLI Engineering & Surveying  
219-730-4413  
dlecy@falk-p.li.com

***NWI SBDC, Falk-PLI mark “Companies to Watch” honor***

**Crown Point, IN** – The Northwest Indiana Small Business Development Center joined Falk-PLI Engineering & Surveying as the firm celebrated its spot on Indiana’s “Companies to Watch” list during a recent event in Indianapolis. Falk-PLI of Portage was the only Northwest Indiana company to receive the honor.

NWI SBDC Regional Director Joshua Lybolt and business advisor LeAnn McCrum took center stage with Falk-PLI President Mike Falk, CEO Dorothy Falk and Director of Sales and Marketing Deana Lecy to mark the accomplishment.

“To be one of the Top 50 companies is really an honor, especially when you look at the mixture and caliber of companies that were selected,” Mike Falk said.

Chosen from 420 nominations, the 50 companies were recognized by the Indiana Economic Development Corp., along with its Small Business Development Centers, Purdue University and the Edward Lowe Foundation, which developed the program to spotlight the contribution of second-stage entrepreneurs. The yearly tribute honors the state’s top privately held businesses that have up to 150 employees and between \$750,000 and \$100 million in annual revenue or working capital. The foundation also recognizes companies to watch in Michigan and Arizona.



Photo: Provided by the NWI SBDC  
NWI SBDC Regional Director Joshua Lybolt, back left, and business advisor LeAnn McCrum, middle, joined Falk-PLI Engineering & Surveying President Mike Falk, front right, CEO Dorothy Falk, front left, and Director of Sales and Marketing Deana Lecy, back right, as Falk-PLI was honored as a “Company to Watch” in Indianapolis August 27.

“We are really excited to host such an exciting event to honor companies like Falk-PLI. The companies that have been selected are the catalyst for job creation; they are ‘the Best of the Best’ of Indiana, and have the greatest opportunity for continued growth. It is only right that we praise them for stimulating our state’s economy,” Lybolt said.

In business since 1995, Falk-PLI emphasizes that technology and experience are vital to its continued growth in the surveying and engineering industry.

“From the beginning technology has been the competitive advantage for Falk-PLI. By implementing sophisticated, cutting-edge technology backed by our extensive experience we create *value* that translates to millions of dollars in savings per year for our clients,” Mike Falk said. “We utilize laser technology to improve equipment performance and reliability, to reduce costly downtime, and to reduce the potential of unnecessary accidents on the jobsite.”

Mike Falk said going through the nomination process and working with the NWI SBDC have allowed Falk-PLI team members to take a step back and consider where they are heading, including working on a strategic plan. Falk is also looking forward to following up with the other honorees.

“We have an opportunity to roundtable with high-caliber companies that we aren’t in direct competition with,” Mike Falk said. “We can share the best practices industry to industry - from recruiting to training and development - to see what they do as a company to foster continued growth.”

Looking forward to next year’s event, Lybolt would love to make the trip to Indianapolis with more Northwest Indiana companies.

“This year’s event we hosted 50 exceptional companies from around the state and it was considered a great success. Next year, I would like to see 50 outstanding companies with 20 from NWI. That would be a region success,” Lybolt said.

The NWI SBDC provides free assistance to entrepreneurs in the process of launching or expanding their businesses. Through one-on-one consulting, advisors help guide small businesses toward their goals by offering referrals, workshops, training opportunities and other essential business tools. For more information, contact the NWI SBDC at 219-644-3513 or visit [www.nwisbdc.org](http://www.nwisbdc.org).

For more information about Falk-PLI Engineering & Surveying, contact the company at 219-762-7024 or visit [www.falk-pli.com](http://www.falk-pli.com).