

## **11th Annual Economic Impact Awards is About More Than Just the Numbers November 25, 2014**

18 companies. 2.6 million square feet. 535 million dollars of investment. Almost 2,000 new jobs. Now that's something to celebrate!

At the 11th Annual Economic Impact Awards on November 25, MassEcon honored growing Massachusetts companies for their commitment to strengthening the Massachusetts economy. Companies from five Massachusetts regions – West, Central, Northeast, Southeast, and Greater Boston – were celebrated for their growth, investment, and confidence in Massachusetts as the premier place to do business.

To see all photos from the event click [here](#), and for profiles of the honorees, click [here](#).

### **Governor Patrick Honored For His Service**

The winning companies – and so many others across the state – expanded during the tenure of the Patrick administration, and so it was fitting that after serving eight years as Governor, Deval L. Patrick was presented with MassEcon's Statewide Champion Award. The award acknowledged the Governor's continued commitment to growing the Massachusetts economy, spreading prosperity throughout the entire state, and the partnerships required to get the job done.



“The accomplishments we’ve achieved over the last eight years couldn’t have happened without the partnership of government, industry, academia and more, working together for the good of the whole Commonwealth,” Patrick reflected.

*Governor Deval L. Patrick accepts the Statewide Champion Award  
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### **A Personal Touch**

Although nearly 400 were on-hand to support the Awards, the ceremony was intimate and personal. Master of Ceremonies, Anthony Everett, engaged the audience with playful anecdotes and tales from the Channel 5 newsroom. Everett highlighted the accomplishments of each awardee, as company representatives accepted their recognition on stage. In a special moment, Everett directly thanked [Biogen Idec](#), the first biomedical company in the world, for the work they do for MS patients, since his late mother was afflicted with the disease.



## Community Matters

In addition to the three companies honored in each region, awards were presented to companies that are contributing to their geographical and industry communities.

*Anthony Everett presents the Economic Impact Award winners  
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The "Community Hero" winners included [AccuRounds](#) (Avon), [PlumChoice](#) (Lowell), and [uniQure](#) (Lexington). As a group, these companies demonstrated exceptional leadership in their industry, the civic arena, and in partnerships with neighboring institutions.

Seven of the 18 awarded companies are located in "Gateway Cities," urban communities that have struggled to adjust to the economic challenges of a skills-based economy. With support from Governor Patrick's office and persistent work in the private sector, these Gateway Cities are on their way to reclaiming economic prowess.

## An Unintentional Theme

With such a diverse range of companies and personalities, the Economic Impact Awards always showcase the array of talent and businesses Massachusetts has to offer. Additionally, the event highlights the similarities that make these businesses successful. This year, one theme appeared throughout the ceremony: the importance of collaboration.

Governor Patrick set the tone early on, arguing that it takes an entire community of people to orchestrate a successful economy; this includes the state and local governments, development agencies, passionate employees, and a swell of community support.



Duane Fotheringham from [Hydroid](#) (Southeast Gold Winner) thanked the Cape Cod Commission for its support in facilitating the company's expansion, while Martha Doyle from [EF Education First](#) (Greater Boston Gold Winner) claimed local universities were paramount in making Greater Boston an ideal location. [Keurig Green Mountain](#) (Northeast Gold Winner) Vice President John Heller explained that although the coffee business is a competitive one, it requires cooperation. He commended even his closest competitors for opening the lines of communication for mutual benefit.

*Martha Doyle Chief Administrative Officer of EF Education First  
© Janet Stearns, 2014*

Business may not always encourage collaboration, but the 2014 Economic Impact Award winners are proof that a little teamwork can go a long way. If the companies honored at this year's Annual Economic Impact Awards are any indication of what's to come for the Massachusetts, there's lots to be hopeful about. Those in attendance witnessed how Massachusetts has grown economically in just a year, even in areas where that growth isn't always easy.

MassEcon wishes our winners, finalists, and nominees the best as they continue their journey in the Commonwealth. MassEcon would also like to extend thanks to our presenting sponsor, [Citizens Bank](#), as well as other lead sponsors, [WPI](#) and [DLA Piper](#).

For a full list of event sponsors, click [here](#).