

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### WREN INDUSTRIES NAMED AEROSPACE MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR

#### Wins Colorado Manufacturing Award and Announced As Finalist for Colorado Companies to Watch Same Day

**GRAND JUNCTION, CO (April 8, 2019)** – The good news was two-fold for Wren Industries last week. The Grand Junction-based aerospace manufacturer was announced as a finalist for Colorado Companies to Watch on Thursday morning and then accepted the Aerospace/Electronics Manufacturer of the Year Award at the [Colorado Manufacturing Awards \(CMAs\)](#) in Denver that same evening.

The CMAs are presented by [CompanyWeek](#) annually to innovative companies representing various sectors of the manufacturing industry in Colorado. Coates Lear, principal at CMA sponsor Squire Patton Boggs, presented Wren Industries with the award, saying:

“As a small company, Wren punches way over its weight. It is leading a Western Slope push to diversify the industrial scene there, even as it takes advantage of its size to implement new lean practices and maneuver to new opportunities in space.”

Colorado Companies to Watch (CCTW), similarly, selects 50 small businesses each year that represent “Colorado’s most innovative, visionary, job-creating, impactful, and successful 2nd Stage entrepreneurs.” Wren Industries was named among the 100 finalists for 2019 in a [CCTW press release](#) last Thursday. The 50 winners will be selected in early summer and announced at a gala in Denver on June 21.

“We are honored to have a company like Wren Industries operating in Grand Junction,” said Robin Brown, executive director of the Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP). “Wren Industries has been instrumental in shedding light on the high caliber of

the manufacturing industry in Colorado's Grand Valley. Mike and his team are also huge supporters of our economic development efforts and are helping us attract more advanced manufacturing and technology companies to the area."

Mike and Shannon Sneddon purchased Wren Industries in 2008. At the time, it was a small parts manufacturer for the rock-climbing industry. Over the next decade, the husband-and-wife team reimagined Wren Industries into a small but impactful precision manufacturing operation serving the aerospace and energy industries. Under the Sneddon's, the company has grown approximately 15 percent per year and has expanded from a 2,000 to 10,000-square foot facility in Grand Junction.

After a concerted push with GJEP and several civil servants, the small business announced in May 2017 that it had been awarded a coveted contract with Lockheed Martin. It is currently one of only nine small-parts suppliers to NASA's Orion Spacecraft program.

Mike Sneddon is also an avid contributor in the community. He is actively involved with the internship program at Colorado Mesa University and sits on the GJEP board. He will be a panelist at the [2019 Western Colorado Economic Summit](#) on April 19.

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### **About the Grand Junction Economic Partnership**

The Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP) works to enhance the economic vitality and quality of life in Colorado's Grand Valley by supporting high-impact capital investment and job creation. Operating as a 501(c)3, GJEP administers incentive programs and offers services free of charge to organizations interested in relocation or expansion in the cities of Grand Junction and Fruita, the town of Palisade and surrounding communities of Mesa County. Visit [www.gjep.org](http://www.gjep.org) for more information.