NEWS RELEASE

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VAN METER ANNOUNCES NEW 'SPARK YOUR SUCCESS' SCHOLARSHIP

Distributor supports students pursuing education and training in the trades

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA – (February 22, 2024) – Van Meter Inc. is helping power the future of the electrical industry through its new Spark Your Success Scholarship. The \$2,500 scholarship is awarded to up to four individuals who have completed a high school degree or GED and are pursuing a field related to the electrical trades.

"Supporting education within the electrical trades is a top priority, and we're excited to give people access to work in this industry," said Danielle Monthei, Community Impact Manager at Van Meter.

It's a priority because there is an ever-growing need for skilled trades workers. The <u>U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics</u> projects 73,500 openings for electricians each year over the next decade and employment to grow twice as fast as all other occupations combined. The Spark Your Success Scholarship is an investment in the future of the industry.

"The electrical trades offer a variety of work, competitive pay and benefits and varying work environments. Plus, the skills developed translate to other careers," said Monthei. "We believe anyone with a strong work ethic and the desire to power the future can find a place to succeed in our industry, and we hope this scholarship sparks interest in the trades."

What makes someone a good applicant for the scholarship? Giving back to its communities is one of Van Meter's core values. Monthei said the ideal applicant is someone passionate about establishing their career in the trades and bettering their community.

"People in our company and this industry have a lot of heart. Our goal is to help people who share the same values," she said.

Scholarship applicants can be enrolled in an apprenticeship program or an associate or undergraduate degree program for engineering, supply chain management, information technology, solar installation, construction management or electrical distribution.

Van Meter is accepting scholarship applications through March 31. Applicants must complete an application form and submit a letter of recommendation at vanmeterinc.com/scholarship. Van Meter will announce scholarship recipients in May.

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Headquartered in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Van Meter is an award-winning workplace and the nation's 15th largest electrical distributor with twenty-five locations in seven states. The 100-percent employee-owned company provides electrical and automation products and services to contractor, industrial and commercial customers. Van Meter's offering encompasses lighting, data communications, utility, automation, power transmission, renewable energy, core electrical components and more. To learn more visit www.vanmeterinc.com