

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fermentum CTO Joel Stone Recognized as First Ever Thomas Champion For Industry Winner

Recognition Program Awards Industry Difference Makers

Richmond, VA – June 11th, 2019 – Joel Stone, Chief Technology Officer and Board Chair at Fermentum – an industrial biotechnology, development, manufacturing and innovation company – based in Richmond, VA -- was announced as Thomas' first [Champion for Industry](#). A new recognition program that honors business owners, managers and industry leaders of all ages who help drive their companies and the manufacturing industry forward.

Stone is the only executive in the history of biotechnology that has built three 100 million gallons-per-year ethanol plants concurrently, bringing all three on line in just 16 months. He is a sought-after speaker and industry consultant, and has been CEO, COO, SVP, and VP of numerous food ingredient, animal health, enzyme, ethanol, and renewable chemical companies. Read more of his story [here](#).

Business leaders are facing tremendous new challenges and opportunities as Industry 4.0 and emerging technologies continually redefine the manufacturing and industrial landscape. Thomas' Champion For Industry program recognizes that show a unique ability to adapt, innovate and lead in an evolving and increasingly competitive arena," said Tony Uphoff, Thomas President and CEO. "Joel's accomplishments and contributions are extraordinary, and we're honored to have him as our first Champion For Industry winner."

As Joel stone has explained to The Motley Fool's Simon Erickson, Joel is putting his experience across multiple and diverse technologies to use at Fermentum (www.fermentationservices.com) for innovative industrial biotech companies. "Fermentum. . . is a disruptive business model and that one of the major hurdle or hurdles for industrial biotechnology through the years has been the level of capital investment that's required and finding ways to finance projects for individual companies. Historically what's happened in the food industry, what's happened in the IT industry, the chemical industry through the years is something called contract manufacturing or toll manufacturing. Which basically is a maker's space. It's a facility that's multifunctional that can produce products for multiple companies.

So it's shared. It's shared capital as opposed to, as an example, if you would typically be an industrial biotech company, a start-up company, and want to build a plant to ultimately have a commercial plant, it would probably be a minimum of \$100 million. Well, rather than spend \$100 million in capital or what I call building a monument for your company, it's you go into a contract manufacturer like Fermentum, which we're developing here in North America. Which will be the largest and one of the only contract manufacturing facilities in North America, specific for this space.” <https://www.fool.com/investing/2018/08/25/the-window-of-innovation-is-now-for-synthetic-biol.aspx>

To learn more about Champion For Industry and other Thomas Programs visit [Thomas' Recognition Programs site](#).

About Fermentum

Fermentum provides toll fermentation to scale up from seed, pilot through commercial scale, and specializes in adjusting to customers' production requirements as they change and grow. Fermentum provides industrial biotech a home, providing innovative companies with the technologies and systems to help them transform industries and markets. Together we will usher in a second, sustainable industrial revolution.

About Thomas

Thomas provides actionable information, data, analysis and tools that align with and support today's industrial buying process. Its solutions include the Thomas Network at [Thomasnet.com](#)[®], industry's largest and most active buyer/supplier network. Through Thomas Marketing Services, the company provides full-service industrial marketing programs and website development. Thomas Product Data Solutions helps manufacturers connect with design engineers through advanced CAD/BIM and data syndication services. [Thomas WebTrax](#)[®] provides opportunity intelligence on in-market buyers to help marketing and sales teams track, identify, and engage high value prospects. Thomas Insights delivers original content to help marketers and supply chain professionals inform their decision-making, through leading titles including *Inbound Logistics*[®], *Industrial Equipment News*[®] (*IEN*[®]), *Thomas Industry Update*, and the Thomas Index[™].

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