

International Council for Machinery Lubrication (ICML) Announces 2020 Battle and Gill Award Winners

Recognizing Excellence at Blue Buffalo's Heartland Pet Food Manufacturing Plant and Ontario Power Generation's Pickering Nuclear Generating Station

BROKEN ARROW, OK, UNITED STATES, October 26, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- International Council for Machinery Lubrication (ICML) announced its newest industry award recipients during the Reliable Plant Conference & Exhibition last week in Louisville, KY.

JOHN R. BATTLE AWARD

Heartland Pet Food Manufacturing, a Blue Buffalo facility located in Richmond, IN, was selected to receive the 2020 John R. Battle Award for Machinery Lubrication Excellence. The plant's program comprises over 1300 pieces of lubricated equipment.

"It is quite an honor to receive the John R. Battle Award," says Kevin Keith, a certified MLT I and MLA I Lubrication Specialist who submitted Heartland's application. "This award is a testament to the time, capital, and effort we have put into building and maintaining a world class lubrication system at Blue Buffalo."

"Blue Buffalo is extremely grateful to receive the prestigious John R. Battle Award," adds Plant Technical Manager Jeff Zimmerman. "Our 'Buffs,' Kevin Keith and Matt Felix, have built a world class lubrication program at Blue, and we are extremely proud of their leadership and dedication."

Representing the Heartland plant, Keith accepted the award in person from ICML Executive Director Leslie Fish during the conference's opening ceremony. He was accompanied on stage by Conditioning Monitoring Technician Ray Jackson and Reliability Specialist Bobby Beatty. Felix, a certified MLA III and MLT II Lubrication Specialist, was unable to attend the ceremony.



Heartland Pet Food Mfg. Plant Wins the 2020 Battle Award for Lubrication Excellence! L-to-R: Ray Jackson, ICML Marketing Manager Paul Hiller, Kevin Keith (holding the trophy), Leslie Fish, Bobby Beatty

AUGUSTUS H. GILL AWARD

Ontario Power Generation (OPG)'s Pickering Nuclear Generating Station was selected to win the 2020 Augustus H. Gill Award for Oil Analysis Excellence. John Watling P.Eng., Senior Technical Engineer at OPG, submitted the application.

"Understanding the level of rigor that the ICML places on the requirements to be considered for the Gill Award, it is a privilege to be recognized as this year's winner," says Watling. "The application process itself became a very useful tool for us to gauge the health of our PdM oil analysis program and identify areas where we need to focus to achieve and maintain industry best."

Rick Tremblay, Mechanical Maintenance FLM, notes that this award acknowledges the role played by continuous improvement in a successful oil analysis program. "The PdM team at Pickering Nuclear are committed to providing the best service we can to our Station," says Tremblay. "Receiving the Gill Award is a fantastic honor that recognizes that commitment--and our Station's commitment--to continuous improvement."

ABOUT THE AWARDS

Since 2001, ICML's Battle and Gill Awards have recognized end-user programs that demonstrate excellence in the application of machinery lubrication and in-service lubricant analysis. The awards are open to companies worldwide and there is no cost to apply. To remain unbiased, ICML does not nominate programs itself but only accepts submissions that come directly from industry. [Applications are accepted](#) year-round with annual cut-offs for judging. See the [list of previous winners](#).

ABOUT ICML

The International Council for Machinery Lubrication (ICML) is a vendor-neutral, not-for-profit organization founded in 2001 to help lubrication practitioners succeed in their professional careers, and to serve global industry as the world-class authority on machinery lubrication that advances the optimization of asset reliability, utilization and costs. ICML is an independently chartered organization consisting of both paid professional staff members and volunteer committees. It is a certification body serving industrial lubrication and oil analysis practitioners worldwide; a technical awards body recognizing companies that excel in oil analysis and machinery lubrication programs; a membership body engaging and promoting individuals and organizations; and a standards body developing ICML 55[®] standards for lubricated asset management. ICML certification exams are administered in accordance with ISO 18436 and are available in multiple languages worldwide.

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