

## **AGCO Jackson Operations Celebrates Manufacturing Awards**

Employees and leaders at AGCO Jackson Operations, in Jackson, Minn., have received two prestigious manufacturing industry awards. The AGCO facility is the first in agriculture awarded the AME Excellence Award, presented by the Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME) and the first in agriculture to be named Plant of the Year by ASSEMBLY magazine.

*AGCO Jackson Operations manufacturing department leads accepting the 2017 AME Excellence Award presented on behalf of AME by Eric Fisher, director of operations, during an all-employee celebration Nov. 2 are (L to R), Jesse Remme, paint; Vicki Luepke, tractor material handling; Isaac Glidden, AEQ material handling; Savannah Hummel, AEQ assembly; Fisher, Jehu Jones, maintenance; Scott Benson, tractor; Brock Bonin, weld, Randon Johnson, fabrication, and Beau Davis, shipping.*

The entire Jackson manufacturing team was on hand Nov. 2 to celebrate and receive the AME Excellence Award presented on behalf of AME. Employees were commended for their continual drive toward excellence in the pursuit of industry-leading product quality.

AGCO was chosen because of the company's culture which empowers all employees to actively contribute ideas for improving and integrating lean manufacturing technology at the Jackson facility. The plant operates mixed model lines where workers build-to-order complex Massey Ferguson and Challenger brand tractors and application equipment.

The AME Excellence Award recognizes manufacturing sites with an environment of continuous improvement, best practices, creativity and innovation and where all employees are actively engaged in the pursuit and achievement of enterprise excellence.

AGCO Jackson promotes a culture that empowers employees to make suggestions and identify better processes to improve quality, safety and efficiency. From policy deployment meetings to the AGCO Assembly Academy, AGCO employees work side by side training, learning and innovating. In 2013, the company began using Kaizen Action Sheets (KAS), a three-step, problem-solving online tool employees can use to submit suggestions that can improve safety, product quality or reduce costs in their work areas. In 2016, employees submitted more than 4,000 suggestions that resulted in recordable savings just under \$1 million.

This culture and the commitment of the entire Jackson team have allowed AGCO to be on the cutting-edge of technology and truly lead the way in manufacturing quality farm equipment.

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