



## NEWS RELEASE

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**Media Contact:**

Paul Nguyen  
Economic Development Specialist  
510-583-5542  
paul.nguyen@hayward-ca.gov

## Two Hayward Companies Win 2017 East Bay Innovation Awards

(HAYWARD, CA) – The East Bay Economic Development Alliance (EDA) awarded two Hayward companies, Alphet Energy and Microvi Biotechnologies, a 2017 East Bay Innovation Award on March 9<sup>th</sup> at the Fox Theatre in Oakland.

The Innovation Awards celebrate cutting-edge companies that make the East Bay one of the premier regions for innovation and entrepreneurship in the nation. An independent panel of judges evaluated over 100 nominations across eight categories.

Alphet Energy took home the award for Engineering and Design. Alphet Energy leveraged nanotechnology research from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Michigan State University and over 60 patents to develop thermoelectric technologies that capture waste heat from exhaust and transform it into electricity. Customers in energy-intensive industries ranging from oil and gas, mining, manufacturing, and transportation to defense use the company's Power Generator Combuster to generate reliable remote power while also reducing fuel consumption, operating costs and carbon emissions.



“We can’t afford as a society to not look at energy recovery. It’s the single most common form of readily accessible energy,” said Mothusi Pahl, Senior Vice Present of Business Development. “It’s right here in front of us.”

Microvi Biotechnologies won the award for the Clean Tech category. Microvi’s MicroNiche Engineering Platform, and a patented technology for nitrate removal called Denitrovi, uses natural microorganisms to purify water without the sludge or other waste by-products of conventional processes. The company’s first commercial water treatment plant was commissioned by the Australian government to provide clean water in remote Aboriginal communities. In January, Microvi installed a system for a private water company in Pasadena that brings clean water to over 30,000 households.

“We are proud to be recognized as an innovator in clean technology. The East Bay area is home to many important innovators and we thank the EDA for recognizing Microvi’s revolutionary technologies,” said Ameen Razavi, Director of Innovation Research. “I may be biased, but Hayward is the best City in the East Bay.”

Hayward’s MDC Vacuum Products, a 42-year-old company that produces custom ultra-high vacuum equipment and tools for the semiconductor, medical, research and defense industries, was also honored as Finalist in the Advanced Manufacturing category. Lam Research, makers of high-capacity semiconductor chips and a major customer of MDC Vacuum Products located in Fremont, won the award.

“The thing I love about this area is it’s so diverse, and full of mid-sized businesses, factories and industrial units,” said Roger Cockroft, CEO. “Everything and anything is happening in Hayward. It’s brilliant.”

This is the second year in a row Hayward companies received recognition for their contribution to the region’s spirit of innovation. In 2016, Motiv Power Systems, makers of electric vehicle powertrains, and Inland Metal Technologies, a precision metal manufacturer, were finalists. Motiv Power Systems took home the Clean Technology award.

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