

## Loparex Receives 3M's Global Supplier of the Year and Global Ideation Awards

September 12, 2016 - St. Paul, MN

3M presented Loparex with the first annual “**Global Supplier of the Year**” award, which recognizes global excellence in the following categories:

- Safety/Regulatory
- Ethics
- Quality/Service/Responsiveness
- Cost Savings
- Strategic Partnering

The award was presented to only 8 companies from the 100,000+ list of suppliers that sell more than \$15B worth of products to 3M each year. Loparex was one of only two materials-based suppliers to be recognized. (NatureWorks, a bio-polymer supplier was the other).



Inge Thulin, 3M CEO, Jose Varela, VP-Global purchasing, and Kevin Twohy, Director of global paper/liner purchasing, presented the awards in a ceremony attended by the suppliers and other 3M business leaders. The presentation of the award focused on Loparex’s 40-year history of supplying 3M with our unmatched capabilities. We currently supply over 200 products to >40 sites in 14 countries around the world. 3M recognized the Loparex culture based on operational quality, efficiency and continuous improvement, as well as our dedication to personal service and expertise which we bring from our commercial, technical and customer service teams around the world. Mr. Thulin also highlighted the importance of their global supply partners being close to 3M’s growth strategies to enable 3M’s competitiveness and their ability to serve their customers.

Loparex was also recognized with the **Global Ideation** award, which recognizes best-in-class global cost savings and growth enabling partnering. Seven programs introduced by Loparex over the past year were highlighted as saving 3M over \$2M in the US and in China.

Mike Werner, EVP-Sales/Marketing comments, “Recognition from a world-class global organization like 3M defines what Loparex can be and should be to ALL our customers. We have an unmatched product portfolio with global manufacturing capabilities and a best-in-class

commercial, technical and operational team. 3M is rewarding us for matching those capabilities to their needs. That is what Loparex is all about and it's what we need to do every day with every customer."

"This award goes to every Loparex employee around the world who has called on 3M, developed a product for 3M, expedited an order or has made a product for 3M", adds Mike Apperson, CEO. "This recognition truly reflects the "One Loparex" culture that we strive to improve upon each day. We should all step back and take some pride in this great achievement - It's amazing what we can accomplish when we work together."

Jason Djock, 3M Global Account Manager concludes, "3M sets very high standards for their suppliers. It's great to have such a strong team supporting us in the field, so we can bring the greatest amount of value to every 3M location around the world. 3M reminds us regularly that it's our people that separate us from the competition."

Congratulations to everyone for this very special recognition!