



## **For Immediate Release**

### **Rich Schoeneck Creative Innovator Scholarship Established by Douglas Scientific®**

**Alexandria, MN USA, April 4, 2016** – Douglas Scientific, a local laboratory automation company, announced it has established an endowed and perpetual \$1,500 scholarship in memory of Rich Schoeneck, a pioneer member of the Company, who passed away last year after a battle with cancer. The first scholarship will be awarded this year at the Alexandria Area High School Honors Night through the Alexandria Dollars for Scholars program.

As one of the first Douglas Scientific engineers, Rich Schoeneck's creativity and innovation were second to none. A gifted inventor, Schoeneck is listed on 16 patents, including novel approaches for film shrinking, scanner photometer methods, and performing real time PCR in Array Tape®. Many of his ideas and designs are used in Douglas Scientific and Douglas Machine commercial products.

Most notably, Rich marshalled an advanced fluorescent detection instrument for high throughput screening of plant DNA. The advent of this device has propelled the molecular assisted breeding programs for seed companies around the world, and has positively impacted the world food supply.

Funds for the scholarship came together from his beloved family, Rich's colleagues at Douglas Scientific and his former and longtime employer, Douglas Machine. "We raised \$30,000 to create this perpetual scholarship in Rich's honor as a way to carry out his passion for innovation and creativity. He envisioned the recipient to be someone with a creative mind that is complemented with the technical aptitude to engineer" said Douglas Scientific President Dan Malmstrom.

Brent Urke, Vice President of High Throughput Products added, "Rich was a dreamer and an innovator. He never shied away from a challenge – those are the candidates he would be excited to see."

Graduating seniors who are interested in the Rich Schoeneck Creative Innovator Scholarship, should go to [www.alexandria.dollarsforscholars.org](http://www.alexandria.dollarsforscholars.org) to submit an application by April 29.

### **About Douglas Scientific**

Douglas Scientific, LLC is a rapidly growing laboratory automation company located in Alexandria, MN, with a team of over 100 professionals bringing together expertise in engineering, biosciences, automation, motion control, and other fields. At the core of Douglas Scientific is a dedication to making the world a better place by delivering innovative laboratory automation solutions. Douglas Scientific designs and manufactures a full line of laboratory instrumentation—Nexar® and IntelliQube systems—to enable PCR reactions using Array Tape.

### **About Douglas Machine**

For nearly 50 years, Douglas has provided customers with high-quality automated packaging solutions for paperboard, corrugated, and shrink-film. Based in Alexandria, Minnesota, Douglas is an employee-owned company that has installed more than 7,000 machines in 30 countries. As a 100% employee-owned company, we employee-owners find the best ways for our customers to be more productive and save money through our continuous improvement solutions. It is our mission to *enrich lives by providing differentiated packaging automation and services.*

### **About Alexandria Dollars for Scholars**

Alexandria Dollars for Scholars is a locally operated and supported, nonprofit, tax-exempt scholarship foundation. Run by an all-volunteer Board of Directors, the purpose of Alexandria Dollars for Scholars is to expand access to educational opportunities by involving and assisting our community in the support of students and in the encouragement of educational achievement.

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