



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 17, 2019

**CHARLES CITY BUSINESS CHOSEN FOR STATEWIDE SBDC AWARD**

***EZ Manufacturing, Charles City, chosen for Small Business of the Month Award***

AMES, Iowa – America's SBDC Iowa (SBDC) is pleased to announce that EZ Manufacturing of Charles City, is the winner of the SBDC's statewide September Business of the Month Award.

The inspiration for EZ Manufacturing began 2013 when founder, Bruce Goddard, was struggling to find a way to prevent his net wrapping for livestock from freezing during the cold winter months. This predicament would eventually lead them to creating an innovative, rear-mounted bale processor. After two years of development and testing, Bruce had perfected his creation, The Bale Storm Processor.

Bruce and his wife Connie began to explore the idea of manufacturing and marketing the Bale Storm Processors in 2015. As Connie says "It's made a big difference for us. We could share this and make a difference for other farmers." Bruce and Connie worked with the North Iowa Area SBDC and NIACC Pappajohn Center to help get their idea off the ground, and has been officially licensed by Kelly Ryan Equipment to be manufactured and distributed on a larger scale. Their bale processor has also been named a finalist for the Innovation Award at the NIACC Pappajohn Center Gala.

Brook Boehmler, Regional Director, North Area Iowa SBDC says, "Bruce and Connie are passionate about what they do and about sharing this invention to help other farmers. They have worked tirelessly to bring their dream to a reality."

For more information about EZ Manufacturing, visit <http://balestorm.com/>

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Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, America's SBDC Iowa has 15 regional assistance centers located strategically across the state. Since program inception in 1981, the SBDC has helped Iowa businesses and entrepreneurs through no fee, confidential, customized, professional business counseling and practical, affordable training workshops.

For more information on America's SBDC Iowa programs or services, call (515) 294-2030 or visit [www.iowasbdc.org](http://www.iowasbdc.org), <https://www.facebook.com/AmericasSBDCIowa>, or @IowaSBDC on Instagram and Twitter

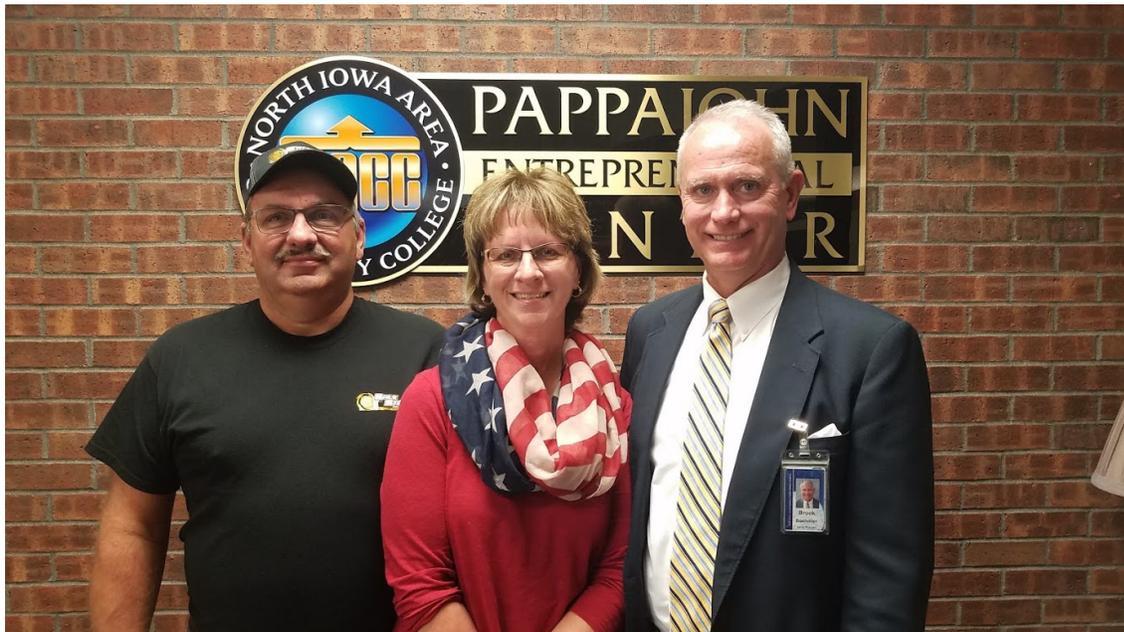
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**PHOTO**



Pictured left to right: Bruce and Connie Goddard, EZ Manufacturing Owners; Brook Boehmler, Regional Director, North Area Iowa SBDC