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**Chicago Tube and Iron is Named One of the Top 100 Finalists for the**

**Twelfth Annual Chicago Innovation Awards**

**Chicago, Illinois – September 13, 2013** Out of a record-breaking 562 nominees, Chicago Tube and Iron of Romeoville, Illinois has been selected as one of the Top 100 Finalists still in the running for the twelfth annual Chicago Innovation Awards. The awards celebrate the most innovative new products and services in the Chicago region across all organization sizes, sectors and industries. Fifteen hundred business and civic leaders will come together to honor the winners when they are announced on October 30th at Chicago’s Harris Theater.

The nomination of Chicago Tube and Iron ([www.chicagotube.com](http://www.chicagotube.com)) is for the integration and creative use of the exceptionally sophisticated six axis tube laser, which is the largest in the world. This innovative incorporation of quantum physics is used to fabricate precision parts for their customers from tubing, eliminating labor and reducing costs.

“Chicago is in the midst of a monumental upsurge in innovation,” said Tom Kuczmarski, co-founder of the awards along with Chicago journalist Dan Miller. “It’s inspiring to see the range of vision and the depth of talent among organizations in the Chicago area. Companies are investing in innovation and taking more risks to launch new ventures and uncover new value.”

As one of the Top 100 Finalists, Chicago Tube and Iron will receive a scholarship to attend The Practical Innovator, a program taught by top faculty teaching innovation at Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management.

Each of the Top 100 finalists is also in the running for the annual “People’s Choice Award,” selected through online balloting at [www.chicagoinnovationawards.com](http://www.chicagoinnovationawards.com).

Out of the Top Finalists, the judges will select 10 winners of the Chicago Innovation Awards, as well as winners of the Up-and-Comer Awards (representing innovation in the start-up community), the Social Innovator Award, and the Collaboration Award. The winners will be invited to ring the NASDAQ Bell in New York City, invited to separate meetings with Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Governor Quinn to discuss their innovation and be profiled in Crain’s Chicago Business.

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