

**Contact: Kyle Kottke**  
Kottke Trucking, Inc  
Phone: (800) 248-2623  
Fax: (320) 833-5856

211 Hwy 212 E  
Buffalo Lake, MN 55314  
www.kottke-trucking.com



# PRESS RELEASE

EY announces Kurt Kottke, Kory Kottke and Kyle Kottke of Kottke Trucking, Inc. as EY Entrepreneur Of The Year 2016 Logistics Award winner in the Upper Midwest

*2016 marks 30 years of ingenuity in America for EY.*

**MINNEAPOLIS, June 10** – EY today announced that Kurt Kottke, Kory Kottke and Kyle Kottke of Kottke Trucking, received the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2016 Award in the logistics category in the Upper Midwest. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Award program. The award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who demonstrate excellence and extraordinary success in such areas as innovation, financial performance, and personal commitment to their businesses and communities.

Kurt, Kory and Kyle were selected by an independent panel of judges, and the award was presented at a special gala event at the JW Marriott Minneapolis Mall of America on June 9.

“Tonight we received a great honor of being named EY Entrepreneur of the Year in the Midwest in the Logistics category. Thank you to EY for this award, we are truly grateful. A huge thank you to our drivers and staff, you are the reason we thrive as a business. We share this with you and we thank you for all your hard work. We literally could not have done it without you,” Kurt, Kory and Kyle said in a joint statement.

Since 1986, EY has honored entrepreneurs whose ingenuity, spirit of innovation and discipline have propelled their companies' success, invigorated their industries, and benefited their communities. Now in its 30th year, the program has honored the inspirational leadership of such entrepreneurs as Howard Schultz of Starbucks Coffee Company, Robert Unanue of Goya Foods, and Mindy Grossman of HSN. Recent US national winners include Reid Hoffman and Jeff Weiner of LinkedIn; Hamdi Ulukaya, founder of Chobani; and 2015 winners Andreas Bechtolsheim and Jayshree Ullal of Arista Networks.

As an Upper Midwest award winner, Kottke Trucking is now eligible for consideration for the Entrepreneur Of The Year 2016 national program. Award winners in several national categories, as well as the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Overall Award winner, will be announced at the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Awards gala in Palm Springs, California, on November 19, 2016. The awards are the culminating event of the Strategic Growth Forum™, the nation's most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies. The US

Entrepreneur Of The Year Overall Award winner then moves on to compete for the World Entrepreneur Of The Year Award in Monaco, June 2017.

### **Sponsors**

Founded and produced by EY, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards are sponsored nationally by SAP America, Merrill Corporation and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. In the Upper Midwest, region sponsors include PadillaCRT, Faegre Baker Daniels, Twin Cities Business, Schulze School of Entrepreneurship, Salo, Lockton and Pohlrad Companies.

### **About Kottke Trucking, Inc.**

Kottke Trucking has been in business since 1938 and for the past three decades has found our primary business in transporting dry, refrigerated and frozen food items. We operate in the midwest, south and southeastern parts of the United States. Our fleet consists of 100-plus drivers and 20 support staff. For more information on Kottke Trucking, go to our website at [www.kottke-trucking.com](http://www.kottke-trucking.com).

### **About EY Entrepreneur Of The Year®**

EY Entrepreneur Of The Year is the world's most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs. The unique award makes a difference through the way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global award of its kind, Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 145 cities in more than 60 countries.

### **About EY's Strategic Growth Markets practice**

EY's Strategic Growth Markets (SGM) practice guides leading high-growth companies. Our multidisciplinary teams of elite professionals provide perspective and advice to help our clients accelerate market leadership. SGM delivers assurance, tax, transactions and advisory services to thousands of companies spanning all industries. EY is the undisputed leader in taking companies public, advising key government agencies on the issues impacting high-growth companies and convening the experts who shape the business climate. For more information, please visit us at [ey.com/us/strategicgrowthmarkets](http://ey.com/us/strategicgrowthmarkets), or follow news on Twitter @EY\_Growth.

### **About EY**

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. The insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, for our clients and for our communities.

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*2016 Award Winner*