

## News Release

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### **Proto Labs Recognized For Advanced Technology**

*Proto Labs continues to earn local and national accolades for advanced technology and rapid growth*

**Maple Plain, Minn., October 23, 2009**—Proto Labs, Inc. ([www.protolabs.com](http://www.protolabs.com)), the global leader in quick-turn CNC machining and injection molding announced today that it has earned the following recognition over the past several months:

- **2009 Tekne Award** – The Minnesota High Tech Association (MHTA) named Proto Labs as a finalist in the Advanced Manufacturing, Small and Growing category for the 2009 Tekne Awards, which was held at the Minneapolis Convention Center on Thursday, Oct. 22. The Tekne Awards recognize Minnesota companies and individuals who have shown superior technology innovation and leadership.
- **Fast 50** – Proto Labs was again recognized by the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal* in the annual publishing of the *2009 Fast 50*, which recognizes Minnesota's fastest growing private companies. Proto Labs was ranked #29. This marks the 5<sup>th</sup> *Fast 50* award for Proto Labs.
- **Inc. 500/5000** – *Inc.* Magazine recognized Proto Labs as the 77<sup>th</sup> fastest-growing private manufacturing company in the US and the 34<sup>th</sup> fastest growing private company in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area in the annual publishing of its exclusive ranking of the nation's fastest-growing private companies. Proto Labs has appeared on the *Inc.* list since 2004.

“We are excited that the industry continues to recognize Proto Labs’ continued growth and achievements,” said Brad Cleveland, President and CEO, Proto Labs. “We view these awards as positive affirmation of the value we continue to deliver to our ever-expanding customer base.”

#### **About Proto Labs**

Proto Labs has radically changed the economics and lead times associated with low-volume production of CNC machined and injection molded parts through the use of proprietary software running on a compute cluster at over 2 trillion floating point operations per second. Proto Labs offers two services in North America, Europe and Japan: First Cut provides CNC machining and Protomold, rapid injection molding; both of which can ship parts in as little as one business day. For more information, visit: [www.protolabs.com](http://www.protolabs.com).