



Sukup Manufacturing Co.

Family-Owned Manufacturer of Grain Bins & Dryers ■ Material Handling ■ Steel Buildings

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Dear Forty Under 40 voting committee,

I'm pleased to support Megan Vollstedt's nomination for the Business Record's 2018 class of Forty Under 40. I've had the privilege of working with Megan this past year through the Iowa AgriTech Accelerator. As a board member, I was directly involved with hiring Megan for her position. When I saw her resume, I knew instantly that she was the clear choice for executive director. It was refreshing to find a candidate who, in addition to her impressive resume, also provided an impressive interview.

Megan's self-motivation to further The Accelerator's goals has impressed me throughout her first year as executive director. She continues to seek ways to improve the program's strategies with little oversight, something she's also accomplished with her own role and responsibilities, which is difficult in a brand-new position. She is very dependable, trustworthy and has shown good judgment. Megan's expertise in the startup industry and outstanding work ethic have advanced The Accelerator in its first year, and I look forward to seeing how she helps the program evolve in 2018.

Megan not only demonstrates good judgement at work, she's a great professional and community advocate outside the office. She is very active within the Greater Des Moines and Ames communities, volunteering for organizations that promote the arts, health and community betterment, such as the Midwest Writing Center, Story County Go Red Heart Healthy Challenge, Campustown Action Association and the Board of Directors for the Ames Community Arts Council, where she held the role of treasurer from 2013–2016. Megan also stays engaged as a member of the Young Professionals of Ames, most recently serving as their president-elect in 2017, and with the Young Professionals Connection.

There is no doubt that Megan will continue to excel in her role with The Accelerator in addition serving as a champion for central Iowa.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emily Schmitt", is written over the printed name.

Emily Schmitt

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