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**Proto Labs Wins Frost & Sullivan's 2015 Manufacturing Leadership Award  
for Innovation Process Leadership**

MAPLE PLAIN, MINN.—March 4, 2015—Prototype and low-volume production parts manufacturer Proto Labs, Inc. (NYSE: PRLB) has been awarded a 2015 Manufacturing Leadership Award by corporate growth consulting firm Frost & Sullivan. In its 11th year, the awards honor manufacturing companies and individual manufacturing leaders that are shaping the future of global manufacturing.

Frost & Sullivan's Manufacturing Leadership Council—a member-driven, global business leadership network of more than 100 members—is responsible for selecting winners of the annual award. Proto Labs was recognized in the Innovation Process Leadership category for its Cool Idea! Award program, which provides gratis prototyping and short-run production services to entrepreneurs bringing inventive new product ideas to life.

“With Cool Idea!, we have the enviable task of working with product designers, engineers and inventors during the infancy of innovation, when their ideas are just beginning to take shape in early prototype form,” says Vicki Holt, Proto Labs' President and CEO. “It's extremely fulfilling to then watch these prototypes become actual products that are released to market with the help of our own innovative manufacturing processes.”

The Manufacturing Leadership Summit is set to follow in Carlsbad, Calif. on June 2-4. Themed “The New Era of Creative Manufacturing,” the three-day event gathers industry experts to discuss challenges and new opportunities in manufacturing, and culminates in an award's gala to honor this year's winners.

“We are delighted to have been presented with a leadership award and applaud Frost & Sullivan's effort to advance manufacturing into the future,” says Holt. “Over the past year, Proto Labs has continued to innovate by adding new capabilities like same-day shipment on machined parts, new processes like metal injection molding and liquid silicone rubber molding, and a third flagship service with additive manufacturing. It all equates to faster and more diverse parts that allow our customers to get products to market sooner.”

**About Proto Labs**

Proto Labs is a leading online and technology-enabled quick-turn manufacturer of custom parts for prototyping and short-run production. Proto Labs provides “Real Parts, Really Fast” by

utilizing injection molding, computer numerical control (CNC) machining and additive manufacturing to produce parts for product designers and engineers worldwide. For more information, visit [protolabs.com](http://protolabs.com).

#### About Frost & Sullivan

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