

# National award goes to Edmond Francis Tuttle graduate



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EDMOND — LevelOps Energy, a graduate of The Launch Pad FT at Francis Tuttle Technology Center in Edmond, was named the Incubator Graduate of the Year by the International Business Innovation Association, formerly the National Business Incubator Association.

With experience in the energy and technology industries, the LevelOps Energy team can ensure delivery of information technology through field networking, wireless communications, automation, measurement and telemetry, according to a news release.

The company graduated from the Launch Pad FT business incubator in 15 months after completing all milestones and expanding beyond the capacity of the incubator facility.

Francis Tuttle's Launch Pad FT business is certified by the state and is the 13th business incubator in the Oklahoma CareerTech system.

In 2016, the oil and gas industry experienced a downturn. Though 75 percent of LevelOps Energy's revenue at the time was derived from the oil and gas industry, owners Sid Helms, Caleb Eastman and Shane Nielson were able to maintain full employment of about 45 employees through opportunities in electrical contracting.

LevelOps Energy added a number of new clients in 2016, including Wal-Mart and IBM. One visible success was the installation of five pilot implementations of a new checkout process at three Oklahoma City and two Texas Wal-Mart stores.