



# *News Release*

**Maine District Office**

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## **SBA Announces Annual Award Winners**

### **York-Based Maine Coast Shellfish, LLC Receives SBA's Small Business Exporter of the Year Award**

Augusta, Maine – The U.S. Small Business Administration is pleased to announce that Thomas Adams, owner of Maine Coast Shellfish, LLC has been selected to receive the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2015 Small Business Exporter of the Year Award for Maine.

“Roughly 95% of the world’s population lives outside of our borders,” said Marilyn Geroux, SBA District Director for Maine. “The fact is that small business exporters, like Maine Coast Shellfish, diversify their customer base and bring global attention to the wonderful things our local businesses are doing,” added Geroux.

Maine Coast Shellfish, LLC is a seafood distribution company located in York. The company was started in 2011 by owner Thomas Adams. The company focuses on not only the iconic Maine lobster, but also wholesale and value added products. In 2014 Maine Coast Shellfish began actively exporting their products, primarily to Pacific Rim nations, as well as to Europe and Canada.

“Bangor Savings Bank believed that Mr. Adams’ success as an exporter of Maine’s most recognizable product made him an excellent candidate for Exporter of the Year,” said Laura Huddy of Bangor Savings Bank, who nominated Mr. Adams for this award. “His efforts have not only created jobs in Maine but have raised the level of awareness of Maine seafood internationally. This is especially impressive given that he formed Maine Coast Shellfish just a few years ago, drawing from decades of his own experience in the lobster industry here in Maine.”

Mr. Adams will be honored at an SBA reception on May 5, 2015 at the Augusta Country Club in Manchester.

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