

For Immediate Release

Denver-based FloWater, a Bluewater Company, Honored by Ernst & Young as CEO Razgaitis Named Entrepreneur Of The Year[®] 2024 Mountain West Award Finalist

Entrepreneur Of The Year Celebrates Entrepreneurs Who Are Shaping the Future

Denver, Colorado. May 20, 2024—Ernst & Young LLP (EY US) today announced that Rich Razgaitis, CEO and Co-Founder of Denver-based FloWater, a Bluewater company, was named an Entrepreneur Of The Year[®] 2024 Mountain West Award finalist. The Mountain West program celebrates entrepreneurs from Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Now in its 38th year, Entrepreneur Of The Year is the preeminent competitive business award for audacious leaders who disrupt markets, revolutionize sectors and have a transformational impact on lives. Over the past four decades, the program has recognized the daring entrepreneurs with big ideas and bold actions that reshape our world.

Razgaitis was one of 40 regional entrepreneurs selected as finalists by an independent panel of judges. The candidates were evaluated based on their demonstration of building long-term value through entrepreneurial spirit, purpose, growth and impact, among other core contributions and attributes.

“Congratulations to our FloWater team. Their impact on the US market is a key part of Bluewater’s global strategy to reduce plastic waste and deliver safe, great-tasting drinking water with the best water purification technology on the market,” noted Swedish environmental entrepreneur Bengt Rittri, Founder and CEO of Bluewater.

Since its launch, FloWater has prevented nearly one billion single-use plastic water bottles from entering the environment with its new-tech FloWater Refill Stations in thousands of schools, offices, gyms and hotels across North America. “This is truly a team honor,” commented Razgaitis. “Everyone at FloWater is dedicated to doing whatever it takes to leave a healthier planet for the next generation and provide access for all to safe, better-hydrating water without microplastics, PFAS or other toxins and impurities.”

Entrepreneur Of The Year honors many different types of business leaders for their ingenuity, courage and entrepreneurial spirit. The program celebrates original founders who bootstrapped their business from inception or who raised outside capital to grow their company; transformational CEOs who infused innovation into an existing organization to catapult its trajectory; and multigenerational family business leaders who reimagined a legacy business model to fortify it for the future.

Regional award winners will be announced on Saturday, June 15 during a special celebration and will become lifetime members of an esteemed community of Entrepreneur Of The Year alumni from around the world. The winners will then be considered by the National judges for the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Awards, which will be presented in November at the annual [Strategic Growth Forum](#)[®], one of the nation's most prestigious gatherings of high-growth, market-leading companies.

About Entrepreneur Of The Year[®]

Founded in 1986, Entrepreneur Of The Year[®] has celebrated more than 11,000 ambitious visionaries who are leading successful, dynamic businesses in the US, and it has since expanded to nearly 80 countries and territories globally.

The US program consists of 17 regional programs whose panels of independent judges select the regional award winners every June. Those winners compete for national recognition at the Strategic Growth Forum[®] in November where National finalists and award winners are announced. The overall National winner represents the US at the World Entrepreneur Of The Year[®] competition. Visit ey.com/us/eoy.

About EY

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About Bluewater Group

Founded 2013 in Stockholm, Sweden, Bluewater has set its sights on being the world's most planet-friendly water purification and beverage company by innovating and marketing disruptive hydration solutions for home, work, and play. Bluewater products, which have been honored with two Fast Company 'World Changing Idea' awards, are available globally to consumers, hotel and catering operations, event and venue organizations, and educational institutions. Discover more at bluewatergroup.com

About Flowater

Denver-based FloWater is part of the Bluewater Group, a global innovator of water purification and beverage solutions. Recognized as a World Changing Idea by *Fast Company*, FloWater Refill Stations are used in over 10,000 locations including Hyatt, Google, Red Bull, and Oakland Unified Schools, and have saved over 851 million single-use plastic water bottles from the environment. FloWater is known for its 7-stage Advanced Osmosis purification technology which transforms ordinary tap water into ultra-purified drinking water. This removes up to 99.9% of lead, PFAS, microplastics, glyphosates, and other contaminants while adding oxygenation, increasing alkalinity, and boosting trace minerals for great-tasting, best-in-class hydration. More at [DrinkFloWater.com](https://www.drinkflowater.com).