Dennis A. Bowman, senior principal engineer, John Deere Product Engineering Center, is being honored for his work as lead engineer on numerous innovative developments on John Deere tractors, and for consistently serving as a respected mentor.

Bowman is senior principal engineer at the John Deere Product Engineering Center in Waterloo, Iowa. In this role, he works as a large tractor engineering lead. Throughout his time at Deere, Bowman has had a lasting impact on a number of tractor series, including the John Deere 60 Series four-wheel-drives, 8000 Series tractors, and 8R tractors. His experience and engineering skills have contributed significantly to how tractors are built today.

Bowman leads and mentors design engineers in all aspects of tractor design and development. With his skill and level of experience, Bowman guides and influences the tractor design team. Bowman has a very good understanding of the design, development, and verification process. He works with marketing, manufacturing, quality, and supply management during the complete development and verification process to ensure communication is at its best. His ability to ensure the various disciplines appreciate each other’s respective contribution to the business builds respect among the stakeholders in product development and allows gains in efficiency through improved technical exchange. He works with engineers early in the development of products to help improve understanding of the functional interface of their areas compared to other areas of responsibility, creating synergy. His work with customers on special applications is especially interesting and challenging for him as it allows a fresh perspective in changing farming trends and the needs associated with those trends.

A 44-year member of ASABE, Bowman has been active on a number of committees. He is a member of the Iowa ASABE section and encourages many young engineers from John Deere to get involved. Bowman serves as a technical expert to several technical committee members helping ASABE to lead development and maintenance of relevant technical standards.

Bowman holds more than 22 US patents related to tractor design and engineering. Throughout his career, Bowman has received a number of awards. Most recently he received the Cyrus Hall McCormick-Jerome Increase Case Gold Medal. He became a John Deere Tractor Engineering Fellow in 2018. He has also received a number of innovation awards for his work at John Deere and in the past was named the ASABE Mid-Central Conference Engineer of the Year and Iowa Section Engineer of the Year.