



Weatherchem
INNOVATIVE DISPENSING CLOSURES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Weatherchem Receives Honor For Advances in Manufacturing and Aiding the Environment

Cleveland, Ohio—Weatherchem Corporation, a designer and manufacturer of innovative dispensing closures, has been chosen a winner of The Smart Business eVolution of Manufacturing Award. The award is given to manufacturers that best demonstrate excellence in adapting to the global economy and the changing manufacturing world. Headquartered in Twinsburg, Ohio, Weatherchem is one of seven winners in Northern Ohio chosen by Smart Business Magazine and MAGNET (Manufacturing Advocacy & Growth Network).

The eVolution of Manufacturing Award honors those manufacturers that strive for constant improvement in productivity and in helping the environment. Companies were judged in areas including process improvements and innovation, technology integration, adaptation of manufacturing globalization, product improvements, and operational efficiencies. Weatherchem met these criteria through significant accomplishments within their engineering and manufacturing processes. These include:

- **Improved Efficiency Utilizing Lean Manufacturing.** Operations through Kaizen and SMED events enabled Weatherchem to decrease mold changeover by 65% and increase overall capacity by over 3,300 production hours.
- **New Product Development.** Weatherchem's engineering team launched four new products and is developing two new custom-designed products for major food and vitamin manufacturers.
- **Process and Product Improvement.** Weatherchem developed a new "in-mold closing" technology that eliminated a unit of equipment and reduced cycle time. It also resulted in improving the quality of the product by making the opening force of the cap consistent. In addition, a new "split-hook" technology significantly decreased the cost of making a quality easy-to-open closure.
- **Product Safety Compliance.** Weatherchem implemented a "FPA-Safe" auditing program that ensures all products meet and exceed all safety and security standards for the food and drug industries.
- **Globalization.** Weatherchem established its Strategic Channel Partner Relationships throughout Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Latin America, Central America, and South America. This resulted in an increase of international business by 100%.
- **Environment Consciousness.** Recognizing The Environment Protection Agency's estimation that packaging materials make up as much as one-third of the non-industrial waste stream, Weatherchem has created light-weight designs for all of its new products. A new sift-resistant, fully contained closure that eliminates a liner has also been developed.

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The judges for the award also took into consideration Weatherchem's efforts throughout its history to conserve energy. These efforts include using energy-efficient light bulbs throughout its facility, creating a recycling program, and purchasing lighter, more energy-efficient machinery.

Weatherchem will receive its eVolution of Manufacturing Award on February 28, 2008 during a ceremony in the MAGNET's Innovation Center at Cleveland State University. The event will be featured in Smart Business' February, 2008 issue.

Weatherchem Corporation is an innovative manufacturer and marketer of convenient plastic dispensing closures and controlled access packaging. As the creators of the original Flapper® dispensing closure, Weatherchem now offers one of the industry's most innovative closure product lines. These include: Flapper®, FlapMate™, Grinder NR, LiquiFlapper®, NutraFlapper®, NutraGen II™, and Agricap. Whether designing or selecting packaging for a new product, or revamping the design of an existing product, Weatherchem has the closures that consumers love.

For more information about Weatherchem Corporation, please contact the Marketing Department at 800.680.3412 or e-mail marketing@weatherchem.com.

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