



NEWS RELEASE

Date: June 18, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Woodmeister Master Builders Receives Distinguished SHARP Award for Worksite Safety

(Holden, Mass.) Officials from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) yesterday presented its distinguished Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) award to Woodmeister Master Builders at the company's manufacturing facility in Holden. The company's 120 Holden-based employees were joined by local dignitaries, including State Representative Lewis Evangelidis, who read a congratulatory citation from the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

SHARP is the highest honor OSHA awards to small worksites that demonstrate an exemplary commitment to workplace safety and health. Since 1995 fewer than 1,200 worksites in the country have shared the honor of the SHARP distinction. Woodmeister is the sixteenth company in Massachusetts, and the third in Worcester County, to receive the award.

"It was an extraordinary experience to work with the Department of Occupational Safety," said Volker Braun, Woodmeister's Facilities Manager. "We learned and benefited greatly from their services, and we now see OSHA as a partner rather than someone to fear."

According to Mr. Braun, comprehensive safety and health inspections took place at the company's Holden plant during February and March of 2008, with follow-up visits in July and December of that year. By the end of 2008, Woodmeister had removed all hazards identified by OSHA and implemented all elements of an effective safety and health management program that addressed OSHA's 1989 Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines.

The company's DART (Days Away, Restricted, or Transferred) and TRC (Total Recordable Case) rates were well below the industry rate for the year. For 2008 Woodmeister's DART rate was .73, compared with an industry rate of 3.5. Its TRC rate was 3.6, compared with an industry rate of 6.4.

Acceptance into SHARP by OSHA identifies a company as a model for worksite safety and health. Upon receiving SHARP recognition, a worksite is exempt from programmed

Experience the Difference of Collaboration and Craftsmanship

inspections for two years. After this exemption period is over, the employer may be awarded a renewal of up to three years.

About Woodmeister Master Builders

Woodmeister Master Builders was founded by Theodore B. Goodnow in 1980 as a custom cabinetry and millwork shop. Since then Woodmeister has evolved into a nationally renowned, company and a leader in the residential construction market. Today, with over 180 employees, Woodmeister is a *Master Builder* company, encompassing the entire scope of luxury custom home construction and renovation projects, custom cabinetry and interiors, and Lifestyle Management Services. Woodmeister has offices located in Holden, Nantucket and Newport, Rhode Island.

Woodmeister Master Builders has received numerous awards over the years. In 2008, the company was named to *The Globe 100's Top Places to Work* and in 2007 was named Corporate Citizen of the Year by the *Worcester Business Journal*. In 2005, Woodmeister was named one of the top 50 best builders to work for by *Professional Builder Magazine*.

Additional awards include Gold P.R.I.S.M. Awards for “Best Bathroom Remodel” and for “Best Remodel/Restoration (over \$500,000) in 2007, and a Silver P.R.I.S.M. Award for “Best Single Family Home (3-4,000 sq ft) in 2007. Woodmeister has been featured twice on the PBS series *This Old House* in 1998 and 2002, and was spotlighted as a kitchen and bath specialist on *HGTV* in 2001. In 1996 the firm was named “Residential Cabinetmaker of the Year” in 1996 by *Cabinetmaker Magazine*.

Experience the Difference of Collaboration and Craftsmanship