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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AWS Names 2010 Image of Welding Award Winners

MIAMI, FL., November 2, 2010 –The American Welding Society (AWS) and the Welding Equipment Manufacturers Committee (WEMCO) announced today the recipients of the 2010 Eighth Annual Image of Welding Awards. Issued in six categories, these awards recognize individuals and organizations that have shown exemplary dedication to promoting the image of welding in their communities.

The winners were honored at the Image of Welding Awards Ceremony which took place on November 2, 2010, at the FABTECH show. The show runs through November 4th at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, GA.

The winners of these prestigious awards are instrumental in raising the image of welding and strengthening the industry.

Following are all the 2010 Image of Welding Award winners:

Individual Category – Robert L. Richwine – Chesterfield, Ind.

A welder for almost 40 years, Mr. Richwine has been an active member of the American Welding Society for over 20 years and serves on many advisory boards for area vocation schools. Welding students at Ivy Tech State College where Richwine currently teaches have dubbed him “The Welding God.”

Educator Category - James Lee Brantley – Miami, Fla.

Mr. Brantley has taught welding technology in Miami-Dade Public Schools for over 30 years. Recently Brantley and his students teamed up with AWS and actress Patricia Arquette to turn shipping containers into homes for families displaced by the devastating earthquake in Haiti in January of this year.

Educational Facility – Gadsden State Community College - Gadsden, Ala.

Gadsden State Community College has created the first centralized industry-supported, innovative welding training center providing highly-advanced automated orbital training on a college campus with their Alabama Regional Center for Welding Automation (ARCWA). The new center serves as a magnet for qualified welders seeking training and certification in the highly-specialized automated orbital welding skills set.

Small Business – Colmac Coil Manufacturing, Inc. – Collville, Wash.

A privately held, third generation family-owned company, Colmac Coil has grown to be one of the world's leading manufacturers in the new and replacement coil markets. Colmac focuses on not only the future of the company but that of the community and the welding industry. They donate the use of a GTAW welding machine to a local high school welding class and also donate materials such as piping, tubing and sheet metal for use in the schools welding curriculum.

Large Business – PSEG Fossil – Newark, N.J.

In 2007, PSEG Fossil began the revitalization of its technical training program and made the decision to design and develop a mobile training welding unit. The company now has a 53-foot-long trailer customized with expandable classroom, instruction station, six weld booths, heating and air and compressed air and storage space for gas bottles. The mobile unit is a way for the company to train and certify welders across four states.

AWS Section – North Central Florida Section

As an active section of AWS, the North Central Florida Section is committed to promoting the image of welding through their state. They have adopted an approach to cater to the future of the industry by focusing on students. The success paid off when at the District 5 Conference earlier this year, four of the five district scholarships awarded went to students from the North Central Florida Section.

About AWS

The American Welding Society (AWS) was founded in 1919 as a multifaceted, nonprofit organization with a mission to advance the science, technology and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes including brazing, soldering, and thermal spraying. Headquartered in Miami, Florida, and led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, AWS serves more than 63,000 members worldwide and is composed of 22 Districts with 250 Sections and student chapters. For more information, visit the society's website at <http://www.aws.org> and click on "Pressroom."

About WEMCO

The Welding Equipment Manufacturers Committee (WEMCO) is a standing committee of the American Welding Society. The committee is comprised of executives from welding industry suppliers to promote the welding equipment market. Enhancing the image of welding as a critical industry is amongst their priority programs. For more information on WEMCO membership and benefits, visit the committees website at www.aws.org/wemco.

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