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GlasWeld Gears Up to Apply for Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award in 2009

The award is the nation's highest Presidential honor for organizational performance excellence.

October 8, 2007 — Bend, OR — GlasWeld, a complete solutions provider for the glass repair industry, today announced that it is participating in the Baldrige National Quality Award Program inspired Quest for Excellence series for a third year with the intention of applying for the national award in 2009. The Baldrige-inspired program includes education in the seven Baldrige categories: leadership; strategic planning; customer & market focus; measurement, analysis and knowledge management; workforce focus; process management; and results.

“GlasWeld constantly strives to ‘Reflect Excellence’ in every aspect of our business processes,” said Mike Boyle, president of GlasWeld. “By participating in this program for a third year, we see how far we have come and how these principles have really become ingrained in our operations on a daily basis. We are now ready to put the Baldrige principles to the test by beginning the rigorous application process for the Baldrige Award in 2009.”

During this third year of participating in the Quest for Excellence series, GlasWeld will refine its best practices for business, as well as gain outside perspectives on corporate strengths and areas of improvement from other organizations. The Baldrige-inspired program provides an opportunity to review individual and organizational performance criteria such as visionary leadership, customer focused excellence, organizational and personal learning, valuing staff and partners, managing for innovation and social responsibility.

Representatives from GlasWeld’s Reflecting Excellence Team will travel to the Quest for Excellence Conference being held in Washington, DC on April 25-28, 2008. This event is the official conference of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award where the 2007 award recipients will be highlighted and make presentations on how they applied the Baldrige principles to their businesses. Past winners of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award vary from well known companies like Ritz Carlton and various divisions of Boeing, to small businesses such as Stoner, Inc. and two-time winner Texas Nameplate.

About the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Program

This program is best known for the annual prestigious award given by the United States National Institute of Standards and Technology. It was established by the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Improvement Act of 1987 - Public Law 100-107 and named for Malcolm Baldrige, who served as United States Secretary of Commerce during the Reagan administration. The program aims to reward quality in the business, health care, education, and nonprofit sectors and was inspired by the ideas of Total Quality Management. This is the only quality award that is actually awarded by the President of the United States. www.quality.nist.gov

About GlasWeld

Based in Bend, Oregon, GlasWeld provides complete glass repair solutions—from revolutionary equipment to unparalleled training programs and technical support—for both flat glass and auto glass. The company's proprietary Gforce™ Scratch Removal System for glass scratch removal and Gfusion™ Auto Glass Repair System for windshield repair are distributed worldwide through an international distribution network. GlasWeld's product line has been developed based on decades of industry research, development and customer feedback. To celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2007, GlasWeld has expanded its vision from saving glass around the world to saving the global environment through creative, tangible initiatives. www.glasweld.com

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Reflecting Excellence in Glass Repair

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