



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Behlen Wins MBMA Safety Award for Fifth Consecutive Year

Columbus, Nebraska – Behlen Building Systems was recently recognized with an industry Safety Award from the Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA), a national building industry association (www.mbma.com). Each year MBMA recognizes metal building systems manufacturers who show exceptional commitment to assuring workplace safety. Safety Awards were presented at the MBMA Annual Meeting held December 8-9, 2009 in Atlanta, Georgia.

“Analyzing data submitted by our member companies, MBMA used OSHA guidelines to compare award entrants’ safety scores to other companies with similar exposure to accidents,” states Charles E. Praeger, Assistant General Manager of MBMA.

From the 43 manufacturing facilities nationwide that submitted data, 26 awards were presented – and some were given to multiple locations within the same company. MBMA patterned the awards program to conform to OSHA safety standards. MBMA’s criteria, though, stipulates that winning firms must have work-related accident and illness rates that are significantly below industry OSHA-reported averages.

“Looking at the safety statistics for the past year, MBMA member companies continued to outperform the rest of the industry. We should take great credit for operating safe manufacturing plants and our commitment to safety,” notes incoming MBMA Chairman Chuck Haslebacher. The national average for recordable cases was 6.3, while the vast majority of reporting members operated well below the national average.

Phil Raimondo, Behlen CEO & President, accepted the award on behalf of Behlen Partners in Progress (employees) following his term as Chairman of the MBMA in 2009. Raimondo stated, "It is an honor to receive our fifth safety award in as many years. Behlen Partners in Progress continue efforts to improve our safety performance everyday." Raimondo added, "I am also proud to announce that Tom Wrigley, V.P. of Manufacturing, has been elected as Chairman of the newly formed safety committee for the MBMA. Our commitment to safety is getting stronger."

MBMA has been serving metal building systems manufacturers and suppliers for 54 years. Its membership represents more than \$1.9 billion in annual steel shipments and accounts for approximately 39 percent of the total non-residential low-rise construction market in the United States. MBMA provides engineering leadership through the many research programs that it sponsors annually, often in coordination with major universities and engineering schools. This research is used to improve the performance, efficiency and quality of metal building systems and to elevate the technology used to produce them. Additional information is available at www.mbma.com.

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Behlen Mfg. Co., located in Columbus, Nebraska, was established in 1936 and the company's building business unit produces a wide variety of custom designed metal building systems designed for commercial, industrial, institutional and warehouse buildings along with a complete metal roofing division. More information can be obtained at www.behlenbuildingsystems.com

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