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Press Release

June 21, 2005

Empire Acquires AAC Engineering

LANGHORNE, PA – Empire Abrasive Equipment Company, a leading producer of air-blast equipment, has announced the acquisition of AAC Engineering Systems, Inc., an innovator of centrifugal-disc deburring systems.

AAC's Mercury centrifugal-disc systems, including the world's largest automated centrifugal barrel machine, will retain their identity as the "AAC Mercury by Empire." Other operations, products, designs and intellectual property will fall under the Empire banner as the companies combine operations and personnel at Empire's headquarters and manufacturing facilities in Langhorne, Pennsylvania.

Commenting on the acquisition, Empire president and CEO Harry Hill explained: "AAC's enviable technology gives us a new tool to meet the needs of the many manufacturing sectors in which surface treatment is crucial to product performance and sales appeal. Empire's worldwide marketing resources and technical support will draw increasing attention to the advantages of AAC's products."

More information about Empire's complete line of air-blast equipment is available at www.empire-airblast.com. Information about AAC products can currently be found at www.aaceng.com.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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PHOTO CAPTION

With the acquisition of AAC Engineering, Empire adds centrifugal-disc deburring technology to its comprehensive line of air-blast finishing equipment.