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JACKSON SAFETY ACQUIRES WILSON INDUSTRIES

ST. LOUIS, MO, (Friday, October 12, 2007) – Privately held Jackson Safety announced today that it has acquired the assets of Wilson Industries, a leading manufacturer of welding curtains and blankets.

Based in Pomona, CA, Wilson originated the concept of transparent welding curtains and other products which protect welders from optical radiation, while creating safe visibility within the welding workspace.

“Dean Wilson, the CEO of Wilson, has done an extraordinary job in becoming the market leader in welding curtains, aided by a team of outstanding, experienced people driven by a culture that emphasizes customer service, new product development and a lean operational business model. ” stated Tom Burns, Jackson Safety’s President and Chief Executive Officer. “The Wilson name has been closely identified for 50 years with quality and customer satisfaction, and we are excited to welcome Wilson into the Jackson Safety family, especially as we prepare to celebrate our 75th anniversary in 2008.”

Dean Wilson, CEO of Wilson Industries stated, “Both Jackson Safety and Wilson Industries are passionate about providing our customers value-added safety solutions and excellent service. I am thrilled to have the Wilson family brand be part of Jackson Safety, as both cultures share the belief that success is driven by investing in our people.”

About Jackson Safety

Jackson Safety is a global manufacturer and distributor of safety products, including welding, personal protective equipment, and traffic control products. Jackson markets its products worldwide with emphasis on North America, Canada, and Europe, under established, well-known brand names such as Smith & Wesson, Huntsman, and Silencio. Headquartered in Fenton, MO, Jackson employs approximately 430 people and operates manufacturing facilities and distribution centers in the United States, Canada, and Europe.