

Snyder Manufacturing Inc. Achieves SHARP Recertification

SALAMANCA – Following an initial certification in 2004, Snyder Manufacturing Inc. recently achieved its sixth recertification into the Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program for maintaining a safety and health program among the most effective in the nation.

Founded in 2000, the company is owned and operated by Jim and Cyndi Snyder of Great Valley. Located in the 140,000-square-foot former Salco Fixture Building on Rochester Street in Salamanca, Snyder Manufacturing is a diversified company, which includes being a contract manufacturer in addition to being the home of Domestic Energy Resources and Buffalo Pellet Stoves. The company occupies a portion of the building and leases the remaining space to local businesses.

The certification involved a three-way effort between the state Department of Labor, Snyder Manufacturing and Safety Compliance Inc., and grants the company a two-year exemption from routine OSHA inspection that can be renewed. Paul Songin, state Department of Labor safety consultant, and Joe Budzich, industrial hygienist, completed the certification. To qualify for



the certification, a company must undergo a comprehensive safety and health inspection, actively involve its employees with the safety program, and maintain a rate of injury at or below its industry average. The company has had one OSHA-recordable accident over the past eight years. Jim Snyder, founder and president, stated, "When we founded the company we realized that safety would have to be our No. 1 priority. In a manufacturing environment, nothing can be left to chance."

The Snyder Manufacturing portion of the business involves contract manufacturing, specializing in automated assembly, manual assembly, inventory management, packaging, and electronic commerce. The company's customers

include Endeavor Tool Company for which regular shipments are made to Wal-Mart, Target, Home Depot, Ace Hardware and Lowe's. The company began manufacturing the "Gator Grip" socket in 2000 and in 2006 began custom-machining for Xerox and Kodak, among others.

The company's Domestic Energy Resources division offers a range of geothermal products for both heating and cooling that it installs for new construction or retrofitting of existing homes. The Buffalo Pellet Stoves division installs fuel-efficient stoves with environmental compatibility direct from the factory.

An action plan is drafted every December for the upcoming year and the company's safety committee meets on a regular basis to complete the activities outlined in the plan. "It takes a team effort with all portions of the workforce involved for our safety program to maintain its success. Without their input our safety program would not be effective," said Jared Lowe, safety manager at Snyder Manufacturing. The certification is good for two years at which time it will be up for renewal.