

### NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Thiele Technologies Announces Acquisition of Hudson-Sharp Machinery Company**

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — August 17, 2009 — Larry Smith, President and CEO of Thiele Technologies, Inc., a leading manufacturer of high-speed integrated packaging equipment solutions headquartered in Minneapolis, Minn., has announced the acquisition of Hudson-Sharp Machinery Company of Green Bay, Wis., and Brussels, Belgium, a world leader in the design and manufacture of plastic bag machinery, pouch making equipment and reclosable packaging solutions. This will be Thiele Technologies' sixth acquisition in four years, which have combined to create one of the largest and most well-balanced providers of comprehensive end-of-line packaging equipment solutions for a broad range of domestic and international markets.

Commenting on the acquisition, Smith said, "The acquisition of Hudson-Sharp Machinery Company by Thiele Technologies combines Hudson-Sharp's market leading technology and large customer base with the stability and balance of Thiele's product lines. We are very excited about joining forces with the Hudson-Sharp Machinery Company, a highly respected equipment company, and expanding into many new markets. The Hudson-Sharp acquisition positions Thiele Technologies as the premier manufacturer of film converting and bag packaging equipment. The opportunities for further growth through the sharing of best practices and leading technologies are very exciting."

For 100 years, Hudson-Sharp's converting machinery product lines have included the capability of making bread bags, merchandise bags, deli bags, stand-up pouches, bags on a roll, bags and pouches with zipper closures, as well as the innovative Inno-Lok and Pour & Lok reclosable packaging. Recognized as the global leader in bag converting equipment, Hudson-Sharp's state-of-the-art converting equipment vertically integrates with Thiele's bag weighing, bag filling and bag palletizing systems to create a single competitive source of complete bagging solutions. With multiple manufacturing plants in the U.S. and Europe, the combined organization will provide quality design, sales and service throughout the world.

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Thiele Technologies, a division of Barry-Wehmiller Companies, Inc., was formed as an operating group in 1998 through the acquisition of Bemis Packaging Machinery Company and the subsequent integration of Thiele Engineering Company, Master Palletizer, Frontier Equipment, Edmeyer, Slidell, Streamfeeder, SWF Companies, Inc. and Nigrelli Systems. Combining more than 100 years of experience, Thiele has become a well-balanced supplier of packaging machinery systems and solutions, providing a full complement of equipment for high-speed: bag filling and palletizing, case packaging and palletizing, cartoning, bundling, and placing/feeding solutions.

Hudson-Sharp was founded in 1910 and has become a leading manufacturer of bag converting machinery through a series of product innovations. Hudson-Sharp provides a wide range of solutions for bag making operations. On behalf of Hudson-Sharp, Managing Director Michele Allamprese commented, "We are very pleased that the Hudson-Sharp team will become part of the Thiele organization. This expanded product mix and the system integration opportunities will be a great benefit our customers."

The Hudson-Sharp acquisition is the 43rd for Barry-Wehmiller since 1987. In fiscal year 2008, a strategic combination of organic and acquisition growth allowed Barry-Wehmiller to reach a new milestone, with annual revenues surpassing \$1.1 billion for the first time in the company's 123-year history. Barry-Wehmiller now has more than 5,200 team members serving the global marketplace in over 50 operations worldwide.

### **About Thiele Technologies**

Thiele Technologies, Inc. provides advanced high-speed automation solutions to a variety of industries around the globe, including petro-chemicals, fresh and frozen food, pet food, beverage, dairy, bakery, pharmaceutical, medical devices, cosmetics, horticultural, paper goods, consumer mailing and collating, and paint filling. With more than 80 years of service, Thiele leads the industry in the design, manufacture and integration of bagging, cartoning, placing/feeding, case packing and palletizing systems.

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## ABOUT BARRY-WEHMILLER

**Barry-Wehmiller Companies, Inc.** is a diversified global supplier of engineering consulting and manufacturing technology solutions in packaging, corrugating, and paper converting across a broad spectrum of industries. Barry-Wehmiller's balanced approach to the market is made possible through nine interactive divisions: **Accraply**, a leading manufacturer of automatic labeling and label converting and finishing systems; **Barry-Wehmiller International Resources (BWIR)**, a global provider of business and technology solutions to the mid-market manufacturing domain; **Design Group**, a premier supplier of manufacturing automation, facility design, and other engineering consulting services; **FleetwoodGoldcoWyard**, a leading producer and supplier of automated can end and product handling equipment, advanced conveyance technology, and process equipment; **HayssenSandiacre**, a form/fill/seal technologies and services leader for more than 100 years; **MarquipWardUnited**, a leading manufacturer of equipment for the corrugated and folded carton industries; **Paper Converting Machine Company (PCMC)**, providing converting, printing, and packaging technologies for the tissue, nonwovens, and flexible packaging industries since 1919; **PneumaticScaleAngelus**, a global provider for filling, capping, can seaming, labeling, and centrifugation; and **Thiele Technologies**, a leading producer of placing, feeding, bagging, cartoning, case packing, and palletizing equipment.