



MINNESOTA WIRE

Press Release
Contact: Chip Laingen

Life Saving Connections

Minnesota Wire CEO Receives Regional Entrepreneurial Award

St. Paul, Minnesota: 06/11/09 – Paul J. Wagner, Chairman and CEO of Minnesota Wire, was recognized this week at a banquet in Milwaukee, Wisconsin as an *Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year*® award finalist for the Upper Midwest Region (Minnesota, Wisconsin and the Dakotas). The group of finalists was chosen by an independent judging panel made up of regional business, academic and community leaders, and recognizes individual leadership in achieving business excellence and community improvement.

Paul Wagner's nomination stood out among hundreds of other entrepreneurs, principally for his vision and commitment to transform the company while retaining its culture of community involvement and producing products that help save lives in medical, defense and other industries. The focus of the company's transformation is to move from being purely a manufacturing house to one that is also a high technology center of research development (R&D). Minnesota's Wire's R&D effort is already leading the industry in producing next generation wire and cable technology products and processes, including using nanotechnology to produce non-metallic conductors and shields. The company has successfully leveraged over \$4 million in federal government grants to fund its R&D efforts, build its St. Paul Development Center, expand its intellectual property portfolio, and begin to commercial novel electrical interconnect solutions.

The *Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year*® award is in its 23rd year, and recognizes business leaders in over 135 cities in 50 countries throughout the world. Awards are given to entrepreneurs who demonstrate extraordinary success in the areas of innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. For more about the awards, and to see other finalists and awardees, go to www.ey.com.



Minnesota Wire is a vertically integrated, custom manufacturing and development house for wire, cable and interconnect assemblies to the Medical, Defense, Instrumentation and Telecommunications industries. The company is a market and R&D leader in: electrical signal integrity; mitigating triboelectric effects; radio-translucent wire; and innovative connections for wearable electronics, patient monitoring systems and leading-edge medical devices.

The 30,000 square foot headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota boasts a full R&D and test and measurement center, an Electromagnetic Capabilities (EMC) chamber for electronic pre-compliance testing and a "wet lab" for its nanotechnology applications. Another high-volume, 58,000 square foot focused-cell, lean production facility is located in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. MWCC is ISO 9001: 2000 certified, ISO 13485: 2003 compliant, ROHS compliant, and is a MIL-STD and IPC-620 certified harness manufacturer.