



I N T E R N A T I O N A L 100 Winners Circle ■ Brentwood, Tennessee 37027 ■ 615-661-4300 ■ FAX: 615-661-4359

## **Orchid International Celebrates 20 Years of Metal Forming Excellence**

Brentwood, TN – August 25, 2008 – For Orchid International, 2008 marks a significant milestone – the company’s 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Since 1988, Orchid has grown from humble beginnings as a one-man operation in Ontario, Canada into a \$200 million leader in the North American metal forming industry employing over 700 associates in five manufacturing locations.

Founder and CEO Grant Bibby recalls his decision back in 1988 to strike out on his own to pursue his dream of developing technology to aid in modernizing metal stamping processes. Having worked as a quick die change designer in the automotive industry, the then-24-year-old felt he could succeed in developing unique automation systems and equipment to fit the specific needs of metal formers.

“I had a lot of confidence in my capabilities and in what I perceived to be a huge market for my services so I knew I could succeed,” Bibby states. “I also had a family to consider so when I made the transition from working for someone else to being self-employed, I understood that I had to succeed.”

In 1990 Bibby and business partner Steve Gruver opened a sales office that would eventually become the company’s headquarters in Brentwood, Tennessee. The centralized location positioned the growing company to better service existing customers and to target the burgeoning manufacturing presence in the southeastern region of the United States.

By the mid-90s, Orchid was transforming into a metal forming company and moving away from its core automation business.

“We realized that we could take the expertise we had gained through automating and equipping metal stamping facilities in a variety of industries and offer competitive metal forming services including metal stamping and assembly ourselves,” states Steve Gruver, Co-CEO. “That realization led to our opening our first two manufacturing facilities – a general stamping and assembly operation in Mount Juliet, Tennessee in 1995, followed by a lamination stamping and aluminum die casting operation in McAllen, Texas in 1996.

Since, the company has continued to grow through acquisition. Orchid International started by acquiring a lamination stamping and aluminum die casting operation in Monroe, Wisconsin in 2004, followed by an aluminum die casting operation in Monterrey, Mexico in 2006. In the spring of 2007, Orchid increased its general stamping and automated assembly capacity by acquiring a large, well-respected operation in Newmarket, Ontario.

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Both owners feel the future holds still greater promise for growth. “Due to our experience and expertise in both general stamping and assembly – specifically in industries such as automotive, lawn & garden, and appliances – as well as lamination stamping and die casting of electric motor and transformer components,” states Gruver “Orchid is uniquely qualified and positioned to supply components required by manufacturers engaged in hybrid technology production.”

Orchid continues to play a key role in the supply chains of companies representing a host of industries including automotive, appliance, consumer products, electronics, HVAC, lawn & garden, electric motor, and lighting among others. The company’s client base is so diverse that Orchid’s products can be found in nearly every home and automobile in America. In the automotive industry alone, over 60 brands of vehicles contain either stampings, assemblies, or a combination of metal products manufactured by Orchid.

Looking back over the past 20 years, Bibby can point to numerous opportunities where he had tremendous success. Likewise there was a fair amount of challenges and obstacles that Orchid has weathered to become a leader in the North American marketplace.

“To this day I believe that staying positive and working with customers is the formula for long-term success. Whatever comes your way, you have to believe in your capabilities and those of the people you have surrounded yourself with and work toward finding positive solutions,” Bibby adds. “Looking back over the past 20 years, I am proud of what Steve and I have built and credit our many associates for their outstanding contributions. I would be remiss if I didn’t acknowledge our customers and suppliers for their support and business as well.”

## **About Orchid International**

Founded in 1988, Orchid International provides world-class metal stamping, automated assembly, lamination stamping, and die casting to the automotive, appliance, lawn and garden, lighting, and numerous other metal stamping-related industries throughout North America. Headquartered in Brentwood, Tennessee, Orchid International’s corporate footprint extends from Ontario Canada, down through the central United States, and into northern Mexico. Orchid International’s five manufacturing facilities are strategically located in Mount Juliet, Tennessee; McAllen, Texas; Monroe, Wisconsin; Newmarket, Ontario, Canada; and, Monterrey, Mexico. For additional information, please contact Chris Daniel, Marketing & Communications Manager, at 615-373-7664, [chrisd@orchidinternational.com](mailto:chrisd@orchidinternational.com) or visit online at [www.orchidinternational.com](http://www.orchidinternational.com).

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