



PRESS RELEASE

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PEER Bearing Co. earns recognition as a John Deere “Partner-level Supplier” and Supplier of the Year - 2005

Waukegan, IL – PEER Bearing Co. has earned recognition as a Partner-level supplier and also named a John Deere Supplier of the Year in the 2005 John Deere Achieving Excellence Program. The Partner-level status is Deere & Company’s highest supplier rating. The Waukegan -based company was selected for the honor in recognition of its dedication to providing products and service of outstanding quality as well as its commitment to continuous improvement. Company employees were joined by John Deere Supply Management at special luncheon held on March 15, 2006, at PEER Bearing Co. headquarters.

PEER Bearing Co. is a supplier of agricultural bearings to John Deere’s worldwide operations.

Suppliers who participate in the Achieving Excellence program are evaluated annually in several key performance categories, including quality, cost management, delivery, technical support and wavelength, which is a measure of responsiveness. John Deere Supply Management created the program in 1991 to provide a supplier evaluation and feedback process that promotes continuous improvement.

“It is rare that a supplier receives Partner-level status during its first year in John Deere’s Achieving Excellence program,” said Chuck Donkle, Product Manager - PEER Bearing Co. “It is even more exceptional to be selected as a Supplier of the Year in only our second year at the Partner-level.”

PEER has developed several new bearing designs for Deere and one engineering project has resulted in a new seal design enabling both companies to apply for a joint patent.

PEER, located at 2200 Norman Drive South, Waukegan, ILL., manufactures a broad line of radial ball, tapered roller, miniature, mounted units, agricultural and self-lubricating bearings and oil bath seals. PEER is a member of the Farm Equipment Manufacturer’s Association (FEMA) and Farm Equipment Wholesaler’s Association (FEWA). The company’s on-staff engineers, lab testing facilities and QS9000 and TS16949:2002 certifications manufacturing process ensure PEER-brand bearing are “Engineered for Excellence”.

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“Partner-level supplier” - 2005 and “Supplier of the Year” - 2005 Awards



“Supplier of the Year” - 2005 Award



“Partner-level supplier” – 2005 Award