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Mathews Brothers Honored by Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce
2012 Large Business of the Year Award

Belfast, ME (11/05/2012) - Mathews Brothers Company, America's oldest window manufacturer, was recently honored by the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce with the Large Business of the Year award.

In presenting the award, Paul Doody, Chamber president, noted:

Mathews Brothers is a family owned business that started more than 150 years ago. Today, Scott Hawthorne is joined on his management team by his two sons, Kyle and Alex. The employees of Mathews Brothers are like an extended family. They care, and value employees, and it shows if you ever have a chance to visit their facility.

Mathews Brothers has received numerous awards and recognitions throughout the years. An example: just in the last four years, they were recognized as the nation's oldest window manufacturer by *Window and Door Magazine*. And they're located right here in Waldo County!

They received the SHARP Workplace Safety Award from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Maine Department of Labor. In 2012, they also received the Vendor of the Year award from S.W. Collins Company.

Quality has always been a priority for Mathews Brothers, and this is highlighted by the Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership naming Mathews Brothers as the 2010 Maine MEP Manufacturing Excellence Award recipient.

Mathews Brothers is also very community minded, and it shows by their support of many local organizations, by providing materials, money, facilities, employees... whatever we need.

In accepting the award, company owner and President Scott Hawthorne related:

On behalf of Mathews Brothers, the entire family that comprises our company, I want to say thank you to the Belfast Chamber of Commerce, for the local recognition... it means a lot to our company.

Our Vision and Mission: "WOW! Customer Service" is what has driven us through the down times in the economy through the last six years. Today, I have 10% of my company here to watch us receive this award. It gives me a great feeling to know that our folks come out to see us win an award like this. We have just a great family, a great senior leadership team that has led us through these tough times, and I'm very glad to have them here.

As a family business, you need to understand the significance of the next generation. It really calms a lot of fears in your company. With mergers and acquisitions these days, a lot of people who work at family businesses are concerned, but when they see the next generation appear, that concern is alleviated.

Mathews Brothers, over the years, has had a lot of small owners, but has only had four major family owners, in 158 years, and the Hawthornes' are one of them. I'm very proud to have my sons take part in the business, too. We have so many folks here from our company, I'm just very proud that they took the time tonight to come see us. Thank you all very much.

Mathews Brothers has been in continuous operation since 1854, and is the oldest window manufacturer in the United States. Today, they still make putty glazed wood products, much like they did before the Civil War, as well as PVC, Composite Acrylic and AirCell core PVC windows, sold under their respective brand names.

However, they attribute their continued growth through the past seven year housing downturn to their unwavering commitment to customer service, the cornerstone of their company vision and mission statements.
