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IBS 2009

Booth #C6343

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MILGARD RECOGNIZED FOR INNOVATIVE SMARTTOUCH™ LOCK

Receives Commendation from Arthritis Foundation and International Design Award

LAS VEGAS (January 20, 2009) – Milgard Windows & Doors has been recognized for what it does best – developing innovative products built for easy living. Milgard’s SmartTouch lock has been honored with the Arthritis Foundation Ease-of-Use Commendation and a 2008 International Design Excellence Award from the Industrial Designers Society of America and *BusinessWeek*.

The Arthritis Foundation’s Ease-of-Use Commendation is a program that recognizes manufacturers who design user-friendly products that are easily accessible for people with functional limitations due to the effects of arthritis.

Milgard’s patent-pending SmartTouch lock was designed to engage with simple, one-touch operation when opening and closing, as well as locking and unlocking the window, making it easy to operate for people of all ages – even if they are restricted in their daily lives due to arthritis. SmartTouch is available on Milgard’s Tuscany™ and Montecito™ Series windows. The product is also a natural choice for the aging baby boomer generation. With another boomer turning 60 every eight seconds, the demand for products and solutions to help them age-in-place and improve the accessibility of their homes increases.

“The core of Milgard’s business is to create window and door solutions for consumers that require low to no maintenance and provide more comfortable living within the home,” said Maureen Faccia, Director of Marketing for Milgard. “We are thrilled to be recognized by both the Arthritis Foundation and the Industrial Designers Society of America for our achievements with the SmartTouch lock,”

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The lock's low maintenance and durability exemplify the ease-of-use aspect of Tuscany and Montecito Series windows. According to The National Association of Home Builders, residents over the age of 50 are the fastest growing segment in the housing market. They prefer to age-in-place as well as live safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age or agility level. Milgard continues to design universally accessible products that make this preference a reality.

More than just baby boomers can experience the accessibility and ease-of-use of Milgard products. Other features of some Milgard windows and doors that meet the Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility guidelines include:

- Easy rotational operating force on hardware
- Simple operation on lever lock handles
- Optional electronic operators on windows
- Low sill options on windows
- Wide width options on entry and screen doors

In addition to receiving the Ease-of-Use Commendation, the SmartTouch lock also earned a 2008 Bronze International Design Excellence Award from the Industrial Designers Society of America and *BusinessWeek*. The co-sponsored award is a celebration of the year's most innovative and exciting products and is routinely recognized as one the world's most prestigious design competitions.

What Makes the SmartTouch Lock Easy-to-Use?

Unlike conventional cam-style locks mounted atop window sashes, SmartTouch has an integrated, low-profile design. The lock mechanism is recessed into the window frame, providing a clean, sleek look that complements any type of architecture or interior design. When the window is closed and locked, the latch is down and out of sight. When the window is open, the latch stays open, indicating the window is unlocked.

The SmartTouch lock is designed to engage when the window is closed, providing simple, one-touch operation to close and lock the window. Unlocking and opening the window is just as easy

– again requiring just one touch to lift the latch and raise the sash. Homeowners don't have to worry about inadvertently leaving their windows unlocked, leading to a safer and more secure home. In addition, the lock exceeds all California forced-entry requirements, known to be among the most rigorous codes in the nation, so homeowners can be assured it is one of the most secure window locks available.

The SmartTouch lock is available exclusively on Milgard's Tuscany and Montecito Series of premium quality vinyl windows. For more information about the SmartTouch lock, visit milgard.com or call 1.800.MILGARD.

About Milgard Windows & Doors

Milgard Windows & Doors, a Masco company based in Tacoma, Wash., offers a full line of aluminum, vinyl and fiberglass windows and patio doors for builders, dealers and homeowners. The company has been recognized for manufacturing the nation's highest quality vinyl windows six times in a yearly survey sponsored by Hanley-Wood Inc., publishers of Builder magazine. Milgard employs approximately 3,500 people nationwide. For more information, visit milgard.com or call 1.800.MILGARD.

About Masco Corporation

Headquartered in Taylor, Mich., Masco Corporation (NYSE: MAS) is one of the world's largest manufacturers of brand-name consumer products for the home and family. Masco is also a leading provider of services that include the installation of insulation and other building products. For more information, visit www.masco.com or call 313.274.7400.

About the Arthritis Foundation® Ease-of-Use Program

The Arthritis Foundation created a program to encourage manufacturers to design user-friendly products and packaging. Manufacturers submit their product for testing by an independent lab experienced in the design and evaluation of products that are accessible to people with functional limitations due to the effects of arthritis. More information is available at www.arthritis.org.

About IDEA and the Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA)

The IDEA program, co-sponsored by *BusinessWeek* and IDSA, is a celebration of the most innovative and exciting product and product concept designs of the year, and fosters business and public understanding about the impact of industrial design excellence on the quality of life and the economy. The IDSA is the voice of industrial design, committed to advancing the profession through education, information, community and advocacy. For more information, visit www.idsa.org.

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