

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **GBMP to Administer Shingo Prize in Eleven States**

Boston, MA – On the twentieth anniversary of its founding, the Shingo Prize significantly “raised the bar” for recognition and at the same time gathered all its awards under a single, international umbrella. This makes the honor even more significant as recipients will join a small and distinguished fraternity of best manufacturers. GBMP will administer the prize in eleven northeastern states – Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

The Shingo Prize for Operational Excellence is named for Japanese industrial engineer Shigeo Shingo who distinguished himself as one of the world’s leading experts in improving manufacturing processes. Dr. Shingo has been described as an “engineering genius” who helped to create many aspects of the revolutionary manufacturing practices which comprise the renowned Toyota Production System.

The Prize was established in 1988 to promote awareness of Lean manufacturing concepts and recognize companies in the United States, Canada, and Mexico that achieve world-class manufacturing status. The Shingo Prize philosophy is that world-class business performance may be achieved through focused improvements in core manufacturing and business processes. The mission of The Shingo Prize is to build Operational Excellence in organizations through the promotion of “True North” principles of Lean, Lean systems of management and the wise application of Lean tools and techniques across the entire organizational enterprise. The Shingo Prize achievement criteria provide a framework for identifying and evaluating world-class operational competence and performance.

Formal presentation of the Bronze Medallion will occur both at the Northeast Regional Conference (October 16, 2008) in Boston, and the International Conference (May 22, 2009) in San Diego, California.

*About GBMP: Based at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, GBMP is a non-profit corporation that has worked with hundreds of companies, providing suggestions and solutions resulting in millions in cost savings and increased sales. Each year GBMP trains over 7000 people on Continuous Improvement principles in customized, on-site classroom and shop-floor training sessions and educates over 1000 more people in public workshops, plant tours and the Manufacturing Roundtable.*

*About the Shingo Prize: Dubbed the “Nobel Prize of Manufacturing” by Business Week, the Shingo Prize is recognized as the premier award for operational excellence in North*

*America. “The 2008 Recipients have proven themselves as leaders in lean manufacturing and all their supporting business processes,” said Bob Miller, Shingo Prize Executive Director. The 2008 Northeast Conference and Award Ceremony (October 15-16, 2008) will highlight how lean principles, communities, and techniques/tools can guide a company’s aspirations to be competitive in global markets.*

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