

CONTACT: Robert Currie
VP, Chief Communications
and Public Affairs Officer
J.M. Huber Corporation
(732) 603-5746

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**HUBER ENGINEERED WOODS RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS SAFETY
CERTIFICATION AND ANNOUNCES MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT**

Easton, ME – Huber Engineered Woods LLC’s (HEW) Easton, ME, operation has been recognized by the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for achieving Merit status in its Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). OSHA awards VPP certification to companies committed to superior safety and health practices in the workplace. Standards for certification are very high, with only a small percentage of U.S. companies meeting OSHA’s criteria; Huber’s Easton location is the 23rd in Maine to achieve OSHA VPP status.

HEW has been part of Easton since 1981 and their facility currently employs approximately 130 workers. The mill manufactures specialty building products including engineered structural panels, an economical and environmentally friendly substitute for plywood. Richard Cote, Leader of HEW’s Safety Through Action and Responsibility (STAR) Team, accepted the VPP logo flag from OSHA’s Acting Area Director Bill Coffin during a May 9 ceremony. Maine Governor John E. Baldacci was in attendance to celebrate Huber’s achievement.

Says Plant Manager John Goding, “Seeing the VPP flag flying over the entrance to the Easton facility will serve as a constant reminder to our employees, partners and visitors of the high regard we place on safety at Huber. It’s also a continual source of great pride for the job well done by all the employees of this plant.”

VPP is OSHA’s official recognition of the outstanding efforts of employers and employees who have achieved exemplary occupational safety and health standards. Companies interested in achieving VPP status must implement stringent criteria for health and safety practices in the workplace. When a company applies for VPP, a team of OSHA safety and health experts assesses applicants and subsequently performs a rigorous on-site evaluation. The process of preparing for VPP is a long-term commitment, taking most facilities between three and five years to qualify.

“I want to thank all employees who helped our plants earn OSHA recognition in the Voluntary Protection Program. The safety of our employees has always been a guiding principle at Huber,” said Andy Trott, president of HEW. “We are proud that four of the five mills operated by Huber Engineered Woods have achieved VPP certification, which has translated into fewer injuries and a more productive team.”

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The Easton facility is focused on making AdvanTech® Flooring and Sheathing, as well as the new ZIP System® Wall Sheathing and ZIP System™ Roof Sheathing products from Huber Engineered Woods. During the May 9 event, HEW also announced plans for a \$39 million dollar capital project. The project will allow HEW to redesign, upgrade and add equipment for operational efficiency.

Huber Engineered Woods LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of J.M. Huber Corporation, a diversified, multinational supplier of engineered materials, natural resources and technology-based services to markets ranging from paper and energy to construction. Huber Engineered Woods LLC is an innovative panel and lumber solution provider for the North American housing market with manufacturing operations in Maine, Georgia, Virginia, Tennessee and Oklahoma. It manufactures specialty engineered panels and wood products that are used in residential applications such as floors, walls and roofs. Huber Engineered Woods LLC also serves industrial markets with products for door manufacturers and the transportation industry. The Easton, ME, facility specializes in the production of AdvanTech® Flooring and Sheathing as well as the new ZIP System® Wall Sheathing and ZIP System™ Roof Sheathing products from Huber Engineered Woods. For more information about Huber Engineered Woods LLC, visit its web site at www.huberwood.com.

OSHA's mission is to assure the safety and health of America's workers by setting and enforcing standards; providing training, outreach, and education; establishing partnerships; and encouraging continual improvement in workplace safety and health. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

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