

Plasticolors, Inc. Honored With Prestigious Safety Awards

Ashtabula, Ohio – June 20, 2006 – Plasticolors, Inc., a custom colorant and chemical dispersions manufacturer for the thermoset plastics and paint and coatings industries, recently received three awards from the Ashtabula County Safety Council for its outstanding safety record and ongoing safety initiatives. Honors included the 100% Award, 500,000 Hours Award, as well as the Dixon C. Greenwood Award, which was given to Don Herndon, special projects manager for Plasticolors, for his ongoing commitment to excellence in safety.

The prestigious Dixon C. Greenwood Award earned by Herndon is given to an individual and or company who is highly committed to improving the safety of fellow employees, provides public and community service to further the cause of safety and has actively participated on the Ashtabula County Safety Council. The Award is named for one of the council's founders and is considered the greatest safety honor awarded in Ashtabula County.

“What a great honor it is for me to receive the Dixon C. Greenwood Award,” said Herndon. “Without Dixon’s tireless – sometimes single-handed – effort over many years, the Ashtabula Safety Council would be a mere shadow of itself. Because of his great efforts and dedication to safety, today the council is a large, well-organized and well-recognized organization. It’s so wonderful to be a part of this great tradition.”

Herndon has worked for Plasticolors for more than 27 years with a perfect attendance record. He has taken on various roles with the company, including production operator, production supervisor, safety manager, total quality manager, production manager and special projects manager. He is responsible for spearheading a number of quality and safety improvement initiatives at the company. A few of the major safety initiatives include: OSHA program development and implementation, establishment of the Safety Steering Committee, ISO 14001 Environmental Management System Certification and establishing Plasticolors as an OSHA, Merit status, Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) member.

Outside of work, Herndon has been involved with the Ashtabula Safety Council for 25 years, serving as Council Member, Past Council President, member of the Ashtabula County Safety Council Board of Trustees and has volunteered in the community as fireman and EMT/paramedic. He also taught other companies the benefits of ISO 14001 EMS Certification on-site, at national conferences and at the local level.

Herndon believes “Safety doesn’t stop when you leave work. It must be a constant state of mind in all that you do.”

Plasticolors has also been honored with two other awards that recognize its commitment to safety. The 100% Award is given to companies in Ashtabula County who have gone at least one year without a lost-time injury or illness; and the 500,000 Award is given for at least 500,000 hours or six months without a lost-time injury. Plasticolors exceeded these requirements by logging nearly 1.5 million hours without experiencing a lost-time injury.

“We’ve placed a lot of emphasis and resources on making Plasticolors a safe place to work,” said Ed Trenn, Manager, Regulatory Affairs and Quality Systems at Plasticolors. “But it’s really the people that make a real difference. Each of our employees is very committed to achieving the highest level of safety. We are very proud of these awards and look forward to earning them again in 2007.”

The Ashtabula County Safety Council was founded in 1979 and is sponsored by the Ohio Bureau of Worker’s Compensation. The objective of the organization is to increase safety awareness in the workplace by promoting a greater interest in the prevention of occupational accidents and disease. It is concerned with promoting safety in all types of businesses and industries, including local small businesses, large national corporations, healthcare facilities, local school districts and not-for-profit agencies.

Plasticolors, Inc., a leading supplier of pigment and chemical dispersions to the paint, coatings, caulk, sealants and thermoset plastics industries, manufactures products for customers in the automotive, appliance, equipment, electrical, consumer and construction industries. The company’s colorants can be found in a wide variety of products, including interior and exterior automotive components, epoxy flooring, electrical and appliance housings, and a myriad of paints, coatings and molded composite applications. The company is ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO/TS-16949 certified.