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**THARPEROBBINS WELCOMES PAT RUSHTON
AS SENIOR VP OF QUALITY, GLOBAL INTEGRATION AND STRATEGY**

STATESVILLE, N.C., March 10, 2009 – The TharpeRobbins Company, Inc. has announced that Pat Rushton has been named the new senior vice president of quality, global integration and strategy. Rushton reports to Brett Tharpe, president and chief executive officer of the company.

In this new role, Rushton is responsible for the overall quality efforts in delivering product on time and flawlessly to all award recipients. Rushton will also identify and implement best practices to streamline the supply chain and support operational excellence throughout the company.

“With Pat’s knowledge and skill set, we know he will successfully implement processes for constantly monitoring the standard of excellence of all TharpeRobbin’s finished products to ensure they exceed expectations,” says Tharpe. “We have confidence that, with Pat’s expertise, we will continue to maintain and exceed our current high standards of product quality, so TharpeRobbins will continue to grow as a global leader in the managed recognition and rewards industry.”

Rushton previously served as director of manufacturing services for Scovill Fasteners, director of product integrity at Warnaco and vice president of manufacturing and distribution at The Santee Company. He received his Master of Business Administration from Pfeiffer University.

“I plan to focus on operational excellence throughout the organization and the supplier base,” says Rushton. “I look forward to working with the extremely talented and motivated team at TharpeRobbins.”

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Page 2, TharpeRobbins Welcomes Pat Rushton

For more than 100 years, TharpeRobbins' rich history as an innovator has covered the breadth of managed reward and recognition programs. The company fosters superior performance by creating new standards for employee recognition and rewards through imaginative solutions, cutting edge programs, flawless execution, professional service and world-class technology. TharpeRobbins built its reputation on developing customized programs to help clients reach their employee attraction and retention goals. The company is passionate about recognition because they know that an engaged workforce produces satisfied customers, which in turn produces more business. With TharpeRobbins, Recognition Changes Everything.

The privately-held TharpeRobbins was created through the February 2007 merger of The Robbins Company, founded in 1892, and The Tharpe Company Inc., founded in 1981. The company headquarters are located on a 25-acre campus in Statesville, N.C. and include an extensive showroom and state-of-the-art distribution facility. The ISO-certified Attleboro, Mass., operations include creative services, software development and jewelry manufacturing. Find out more at www.tharperobbins.com.

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