



NEWS RELEASE

Sukup Manufacturing Co. Celebrates Its 45th Anniversary

Sukup Manufacturing Co. has been providing farmers with quality grain drying and storage equipment since 1963.

Sheffield, Iowa – 2008 is the 45th anniversary of Sukup Manufacturing Co. Eugene Sukup founded the company in 1963, when he developed an idea for a stirring machine for in-bin drying of shelled corn. The company has grown continuously over the past 45 years and is now one of the top three bin manufacturers in the world.

In the fall of 1962, Eugene Sukup, a young, innovative farmer, bought his first grain bin to store shelled grain. Unfortunately, he found drying to be slow, and pockets of grain began to overheat and spoil. To solve this problem, he modified a stoker auger from a coal furnace and inserted it in an electric drill. Then, using a chain, he hung it from the top of the bin to loosen the hot spots and prevent spoilage.

Eugene began making the stirring augers at a local welding shop in Sheffield, Iowa. He sold 5 units to a dealer for \$29 each; but when he went back to check on them, he found that only 3 had sold and one of those had been returned. To make a successful product, it had to be automatic, so Eugene went back to the drawing board and came up with the idea of adding a horizontal auger through the handle of the drill. He patented the idea and the Stirway stirring machine and Sukup Manufacturing Company were born.

From its start in that small welding shop, Sukup Manufacturing Co. has grown and now has over 450,000 square feet of manufacturing space. Although the exact location has changed, the company still calls Sheffield, Iowa home. Corn and bean fields surround the main office and manufacturing facilities, keeping the company as close as they can get to their rural roots. True to his farming background, Eugene Sukup is still at work bright and early every morning and is involved in all aspects of the company.

Being a part of the rural community is very important to the Sukup family and to the success of the company. "We owe our success to innovative ideas and the work ethic of rural America. Many of our employees were raised on farms, farm themselves or are otherwise connected to agriculture in some way. They understand the importance of the American farmer and are dedicated to providing them with the quality equipment they need to do their job properly. People raised in rural America also have a strong work ethic and are loyal. These are the kinds of people we want working for us and we know that we can find those people here," says Charles Sukup, President of Sukup Manufacturing Co.

The fact that Sukup Manufacturing Co. holds tightly to its rural roots and is located in small-town Iowa doesn't mean their manufacturing capabilities are small-time. Sukup Manufacturing Co. boasts the most advanced, most efficient bin production equipment available. In fact, the company just this winter added a second bin sidewall production line. In addition, they have state-of-the-art metal fabricating

equipment producing parts for every segment of the Sukup product line. The company employs 400 people, making it one of the largest employers in the area. Advanced production equipment being operated by dedicated employees leads to an outstanding finished product.

Eugene Sukup was recently inducted into the Iowa Inventors Hall of Fame, joining George Washington Carver for his peanut use inventions, Wallace Carothers for his invention of nylon, and John V. Atanasoff for the first digital computer. Eugene's innovative spirit is a driving force for Sukup Manufacturing Co. The company holds 90 U.S. and international patents for innovative ideas they have developed over the years. At the same time that Sukup Manufacturing Co. is celebrating 45 years of growth and success, they are looking forward to many more decades of innovative ideas and producing efficient, effective equipment to help improve farming operations.

Sukup Manufacturing Co. is a family-owned company with three generations now involved in the day-to-day operations. Eugene Sukup, founder of the company, holds the position of Chairman of the Board. His two sons, Charles and Steve, hold the positions of President and Chief Financial Officer, respectively. Two of Steve's children, Nick and Crystal, have recently joined the company as well, ensuring that the company will remain in the family for many years to come.

Sukup Manufacturing Co. produces a full line of grain drying, handling and storage equipment. The Sukup product line includes farm and commercial grain bins, continuous flow grain dryers, tower dryers, axial and centrifugal fans and heaters, the Fastir™ Stirring Machine, bin unloading equipment, bin floors, and a variety of other grain handling accessories. Along with the main manufacturing facilities in Sheffield, Iowa, Sukup Manufacturing Co. also owns and operates distribution centers in Arkansas, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and South Dakota. For more information on Sukup Manufacturing Co. or any of their products contact: Sukup Manufacturing Co.; Box 677; Sheffield, IA 50475-0677. Phone: 641-892-4222. Fax: 641-892-4629. Email: npooock@sukup.com or visit the Sukup web site at www.sukup.com.