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NEWS RELEASE

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GED Integrated Solutions wins the national Crystal Achievement Award for Most Innovative Machine

Twinsburg, OH (September 3, 2008) – GED Integrated Solutions (GED), the progressive solutions provider to the global window and door fenestration industry, has been named the winner in the national 2008 Crystal Achievement Awards' "Most Innovative Machine – Frame/Sash Fabrication" category. Sponsored by *Window & Door* magazine, the coveted annual awards recognize significant innovations in window and door technology, manufacturing and marketing. This 2008 recognition marks GED's seventh Crystal Achievement.

GED's new SmartLoad Welding System i-3™ is the machine that garnered the company this distinction. The SmartLoad is an automated vinyl profile welder that delivers increased productivity of 400+ cycles per shift, speed and accuracy. The outcome includes less labor and higher throughputs, resulting in decreased lead times.

The advanced automation of the system allows one operator to achieve the work of two. The new SmartLoad i-3™ module features controlled-pace operation allowing the operator to simply upload the schedule and pre-load vinyl profiles, with no stopping or interruptions. The profiles then run through the SmartWeld i-3 continuously. This non-stop operation and quick changeover boost throughput by up to 70 percent.

Of equal importance, its multi-level fixturing with independent referenced weld fixtures allow for stronger, more consistent welds and cleaning, plus accurate sizing within each tier.

The SmartLoad i-3™ is part of GED's SmartPlant™ vision that integrates glass and vinyl production with LeanNET® software solutions to help manufacturers gain control and eliminate confusion on the production floor. The modular availability of each i-3 vinyl and glass product allows manufacturers to gain major productivity benefits now while creating the ideal plant one system at a time.

As a part of GED's complete line of glass and window fabrication equipment and software, the SmartLoad i-3 is backed by the company's leading training and support services. To see the SmartLoad i-3 in operation, go to www.smarterfasterdifferent.com. For more information, contact GED's Vice President of Sales & Marketing, Bill Weaver at 330.963.5401 or visit www.gedusa.com.

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