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ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA TRUCK DEALER NOMINATED FOR TOP INDUSTRY HONOR

McLean, Va. (March 17, 2008) — Peter F. Scheler, CEO of Five Star International, Erie, Pa., is nominated for the American Truck Dealers/*Heavy Duty Trucking* Truck Dealer of the Year Award. The winner will be announced at the opening general session of the 45th Annual ATD Convention and Exposition in Dallas on April 26.

Building the Business

Scheler began his career in the U.S. Navy, but was introduced to the truck industry when he accepted a position with International Harvester Co. (now International Truck & Engine Co.) While he was working as a branch manager in Buffalo, N.Y., International offered him the opportunity to become a minority partner with the company at a dealership in Erie, Pa. Within 18, Scheler raised the capital to purchase International's remaining stock, and he became the sole owner and president of the dealership. In 2004, Scheler's son Fred became president and Scheler became CEO. They currently operate seven full-service sales and parts facilities, selling International, Isuzu and Workhorse trucks and offer many services, such as truck rental and leasing, contract maintenance and body shop.

Scheler attributes much of the company's success to Five Star's employees. "Without our team members, I never would have been nominated for this award. It is through their hard work and dedication that Five Star prospers," he said. "I am truly blessed to have surrounded myself with the best team in our industry, and to have two sons to support and carry out my vision."

Honors, Awards and Service to the Industry

Awards earned by Five Star International include International Truck & Engine's Diamond Standards Certifications (2003 – 2007) and Circle of Excellence (1995 – 2006); the *Central Pennsylvania Business Journal's* Central Pennsylvania's 50 Fastest Growing Companies (2000 – 2002); and Gannon University's Northwest Pennsylvania Small Business of the Year (2000). Scheler received International Truck & Engine's Lifetime Achievement Award and the Pennsylvania Truck Dealer of the Year award in 2005.

Scheler has been a member of the Erie Traffic Club since 1979. He is a current member of an NADA 20 Group, a group of dealers who help one another improve their business performance and practices. He has served on the Meritor Dealer Advisory Board and the International Dealer Council.

Community Service

Scheler and his wife Georgette live in Erie. He serves on the Hammott Board of Corporators, assisting the hospital in its fundraising endeavors. He is president of the Zem Zem Shrine Director's Staff and Commodore of the Zem Zem Zailors, supporting the mission of the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children; and is a past member of the Erie Quarter Club, a civic organization. Through Five Star International, Scheler supports the National Multiple Sclerosis Society; Central Pennsylvania Food Bank; Junior Achievement; the Jake Gittlen Cancer Research Institute; the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Children's Miracle Network.

The Award

The American Truck Dealers/*Heavy Duty Trucking* Truck Dealer of the Year Award nominees are evaluated on dealership performance, civic contributions and industry leadership.

About ATD

Founded in 1970, the American Truck Dealers division of the National Automobile Dealers Association is the only national organization representing dealers selling new medium- and heavy-duty trucks.