



Kara Thorp, PR Manager
NADA Public Affairs
(703) 760-7562
kthorp@nada.org

COLUMBUS, OHIO TRUCK DEALER NOMINATED FOR TOP INDUSTRY HONOR

McLean, Va. (March 17, 2008) Ray Mason, president of Columbus Truck & Equipment Co. Inc., Columbus, Oh., 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

Mason began his dealership career in junior high school, doing everything from sweeping floors and mowing lawns to driving trucks locally and cross-country. With the exception of a few years spent serving in the U.S. Army and self-employed in various capacities, Mason has remained Columbus Truck & Equipment. The dealership operates two full-service sales and parts facilities, selling Mack, Volvo and Hino trucks, Danco and Jones body manufacturers, as well as lease and rental trucks and body shop services.

Mason attributes much of the company's success to a strong management team, and the services Columbus Truck offers its customers. He also believes in the importance of employee recognition, offering the "Golden Bulldog Award" to the employee of the month and the year. Finally, there is a profit sharing and 401k matching program for all employees with at least one year of service to the company.

Honors, Awards and Service to the Industry

Mason is a member of ATD and the Ohio Truck Dealers. He has been a member of a Mack 20 Group, a group of dealers who help one another improve their business performance and practices.

Community Service

Mason lives in Columbus. He is the president of the Raymond Mason Foundation, which has granted over \$21 million since its inception to a variety of educational organizations. He is actively involved with the Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce.

The Award

The American Truck Dealers/*Heavy Duty Trucking* Truck Dealer of the Year Award nominees are evaluated 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.

###