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For Immediate Release

Stampede Recognized with Prestigious Best in Business Award

Local peers honor Stampede's character, growth and leadership

BUFFALO, N.Y., October 21, 2005 — Stampede, a leading distributor of presentation and home theater products, recently received the highest business honor in the Buffalo Niagara region: the Best in Business Award.

Chosen by Buffalo Niagara's business leadership, Stampede was recognized as the best managed company, in the region, above \$10 million in annual revenue. Finalists were assessed on courage and conviction to grow their company, nurture employees, and give back to the community. Mark Wilkins, president and CEO, accepted the award.

“Being recognized by our peers for our character, growth and business leadership is a testament to the passion we share for building a quality company in the Buffalo Niagara region. This award really belongs to our dedicated employees that make the company successful and drive it forward, said Mark Wilkins.

Praising Stampede for their leadership, Pete Denes, director of sales, Digital Media Division, Hitachi America, LTD.—one of Stampede's manufacturers—noted, “Stampede's prominent leadership has enabled the company to be a leader in the distribution industry. It is an honor to work with a company of such caliber.”

Sponsored by Business First, Freed Maxick & Battaglia and Citizens Bank, the Business Leadership Buffalo Niagara 2005 awards took place on October 18, 2005, in Buffalo, N.Y. A total of eight awards were presented. Area business leaders nominated all finalists.

Known for its value-added distribution, Stampede is a leading distributor of presentation and home theater products including LCD projectors and thin plasma monitors. Stampede provides a complete range of brand name equipment including NEC, Hitachi, Mitsubishi and InFocus to a variety of audio/visual, computer, home theater resellers and integrators in the United States, Canada and Latin America. Since 1998, Stampede has grown to employ nearly 60 people with offices and warehouses in Buffalo, Miami, Phoenix, Seattle and Toronto.

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