



For Immediate Release

Clear Solutions Takes First Step Toward Employee Ownership

Founder creates an Employee Stock Ownership Plan to benefit the business and its employees

Hinsdale, NH and Burlington, VT (October 25, 2010) — Clear Solutions, Inc., has taken the first step toward becoming 100% employee-owned. The company announced that it has created an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) and plans to sell its first block of shares by the end of 2010.

Roger Wilken, the company's founder and owner, decided to create the ESOP as he neared retirement. His primary goal was to reward his long-time employees for their many years of service and to insure that the business would stay in the area.

"In thinking over the options for succession, an ESOP made the most sense to me," says Wilken. "It allows the great staff we have here to stay together in their jobs and offers them a long-term reward at the same time."

Wilken learned about ESOPs from the Vermont Employee Ownership Center (VEOC), a nonprofit organization that provides education and technical assistance to businesses that could benefit from selling some or all of the company to its employees. While the VEOC's primary mission is to serve Vermont companies, the organization also works with businesses in neighboring states.

"We're so pleased that Clear Solutions has created an ESOP for its employees," says Jon Crystal, Executive Director of the VEOC. "This new ownership structure will help keep Clear Solutions in the Hinsdale-Battleboro area, thereby securing dozens of jobs and contributing to the local and state economies."

About Clear Solutions, Inc.

Clear Solutions manufactures displays and merchandisers for retail stores, as well as a line of housewares. The company was founded in Rockville, MD in 1969, and moved to Guilford, VT in 1971. It relocated its operations to Hinsdale, NH in 1993. The company currently employs 30 people.

About the Vermont Employee Ownership Center

The VEOC is a nonprofit organization whose goals are to broaden capital ownership, deepen employee participation, retain local ownership of businesses and the jobs they support, increase living standards for working families, and stabilize communities. The Center works directly with owners interested in selling their business to their employees, employee groups interested in purchasing a business, and entrepreneurs who wish to start a company with broadly-shared ownership.

Contact Information:

Roger Wilken
Clear Solutions, Inc.
603-256-6644 ext.108
Email: roger (at) cleardisplays.com
Website: www.cleardisplays.com

Ursula Jones
Vermont Employee Ownership Center
802-861-6611
Email: ursula (at) veoc.org
Website: www.veoc.org