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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Driving Energy Performance Through a Shading and Curtain-Wall System

Boston, Mass., November 2008—MechoShade Systems, the world's leading provider of manual, motorized, and electronically automated solar-shading systems, has developed an innovative new shade system, which seamlessly integrates into a standard curtain-wall configuration. The combination is being launched at the Greenbuild 2008 Conference and Expo by two international manufacturers, each a leader in its own field.

Leading manufacturers join forces

MechoShade Systems and Kawneer Company, the leading manufacturer of architectural aluminum products and systems for commercial construction, have combined their products to offer a uniform system, which provides a building with greater energy performance and contributes toward indoor environmental quality.

Glass curtain walls have increased as a percentage of the typical building envelope and now often utilize glazing with high visible-light transmittance. This increased visible-light transmittance has unfortunately heightened glare and heat gain into building interiors. The condition means that a curtain wall with an integrated WindowManagement[®] system by MechoShade System is necessary. The design intent is realized with sustainable components such as high-performance glazing with motorized louvers and shades.

A curtain-wall system with motorized solar shades

MechoShade Systems' new shading system combines its ElectroShade[®] solar-shading system and WhisperShade[™] motors with the new Mecho[®] LouverShelf. The products function in tandem to manage sunlight entering a space and maximize daylighting, comfort, and view. MechoShade Systems is collaborating with Kawneer to incorporate a new curtain-wall display as part of its booth. The display combines MechoShade Systems' new shading system with Kawneer's 7500 Wall[®]—a curtain-wall system,

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which offers design flexibility with uncompromising energy efficiency.

For years, MechoShade Systems has dedicated itself to providing energy-saving, sustainable shade systems, and components. One of the systems, SolarTrac[®], employed in The New York Times Building, harvests daylight by tracking the sun and the microclimatic sky conditions. It adjusts the shades incrementally, according to the sun's position in the sky, the direction of the solar rays, and the sun's intensity. Based on the parameters of LEED[®] NC v2.2 (EA Credit 1), the system's automated interior-shading devices can be modeled for credit in a proposed design for optimizing energy performance. Through the use of MechoShade Systems' own transparent shade cloths, available in a range of openness factors, SolarTrac[®] can efficiently control solar heat gain and glare. When daylight is regulated at the window wall, buildings require less artificial lighting and less HVAC, appreciably reducing energy costs. In fact, a 70% reduction in lighting energy savings cost has been reported by The New York Times.

Revolutionary and eco-effective EcoVeil[®]

The effectiveness of a WindowManagement[®] system is important, as are the elements, which make up the system. MechoShade Systems has dedicated itself to providing healthy and sustainable products and systems. One particular product, its EcoVeil[®], is a revolutionary eco-effective solar shade cloth, which can be reclaimed and recycled. In 2006, this eco-friendly shade cloth with the Mecho[®]/5 manual window-shade system was Cradle to Cradle Certified^{CM} silver by William McDonough and Michael Braugart's firm, MBDC. As a Cradle to CradleSM product, EcoVeil[®] can now contribute toward an Innovation in Design credit under the LEED[®] system.

MechoShade Systems has been designing and developing sustainable shading systems for 40 years. The company, which cooperates with architects, designers, and others in the design-build sector, has remained at the forefront of design. WindowManagement[®] solutions such as the new Mecho[®] LouverShelf, SolarTrac[®], and EcoVeil[®] are essential in providing a comfortable, sustainable, energy-efficient, planet-respecting environment.

About MechoShade Systems, Inc.

The firm, headquartered in Long Island City, New York, is the leading provider of WindowManagement[®] solutions to architects and interior designers. Launched in 1969, MechoShade Systems grew quickly by responding to the demand from architects and commercial-building owners for an energy-efficient WindowManagement[®] system during the energy crisis of the 1970s. Today, the company markets a wide range of advanced roller-shade systems, control systems, and almost 200 different patterns and colors of visually transparent shade cloths.

For more information about the company, its products, and systems, please contact: MechoShade Systems, Inc., 42-03 35th Street, Long Island City, New York, 11101. T: (718) 729-2020, F: (718) 371-1081, e-mail: marketing@mechoshade.com. Visit MechoShade Systems on-line at: www.mechoshadesystems.com

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