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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

***MSA Helmet Among U.S. Army's List of Greatest Inventions***

PITTSBURGH, January 26, 2004 -- The U.S. Army Material Command has recognized MSA's Modular Integrated Communications Helmet/Advanced Combat Helmet as one of the Greatest Inventions of 2002.

The MICH/ACH helmet, which has been credited with saving soldiers' lives during combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, was officially recognized by the U.S. Army during ceremonies last month at Ft. Belvoir, Va. and Natick Labs, Mass.

“This recognition is a testimony to the quality, reliability, and durability of the products we produce every day, and to the commitment and passion for safety demonstrated by all MSA associates,” said Ron Herring, vice president and general manager of MSA's Safety Products Division. “We are extremely proud of this recognition and proud to be able to support America's soldiers at home and abroad with this outstanding safety helmet.”

(more)

The MICH/ACH helmet provides 9 mm handgun and fragmentation protection in any environment and allows maximum sensory awareness for the user, which includes unobstructed field of view and ambient hearing capabilities. It also allows mounting of night vision devices and integration with respiratory protective equipment. The helmet's retention and suspension system gives maximum balance, stability and comfort, while providing the proper size, fit and ventilation.

The MICH/ACH helmet was judged to be among the greatest inventions of 2002 based on evaluations reported by six active Army Divisions and the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. After reviewing more than 30 nominated products, evaluators provided their ranked list to U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command for consolidation into a list of 10 top inventions, which included the MSA helmet.

*Established in 1914, MSA is the world's leading provider of quality products and services that protect people's health and safety and the environment. The company has annual sales of \$650 million, manufacturing operations throughout the United States and Europe and 28 international affiliates. Since the company's founding, MSA products for the military have been used in two world wars, as well as Korea, Vietnam the Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq.*

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