

For Immediate Release

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Hagie STS Series Named 2014 CropLife IRON Product of the Year

Clarion, Iowa – Hagie Mfg. is proud to announce that the STS Application Series has been selected as the <u>2014CropLife® IRON Product of the Year</u>. CropLife IRON Editor Eric Sfiligoj presented the award to Hagie representatives at the American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) show in Chicago, IL.

"We started the CropLife IRON Product of the Year to acknowledge the best product of the year in Ag retail equipment," says Editor Eric Sfiligoj. "And in all the years of conducting this competition, no product has come close to receiving the overwhelming number of votes from our readers as Hagie did this year."

"Hagie Mfg. is in the business of solving problems. This unique business approach allows us to distinctively focus on providing solutions for optimal growth and the long term success of our customers," states Alan Hagie, President & CEO. "We appreciate the market recognizing the value that our application solutions deliver to operations and to their bottom line," added Hagie.

CropLife IRON Product of the Year Award

CropLife IRON readers annually select five products introduced during the current calendar year that they considered "the best of the best." Readers vote for one month on their favorite among these five nominees to determine which product was the "year's best." For 2014, Hagie Mfg.'s STS Series self-propelled sprayer was selected as the best of the year by almost 64% of the CropLife IRON readers, who voted out of a total of just under 2,000 votes cast.

"We never set out to win awards, but to make a real impact, a real difference in the economic drivers that face retailers and producers in today's market conditions; providing solutions to end customers," commented Travis D. Stallkamp, Chief Operating Officer/COO. "That is impossible to accomplish without great innovative people taking care of these customers. We are honored that all the hard work of these people, has resulted in this award. We are humbled by the customers that voted for us," added Stallkamp.

Proven Performance with the STS Application System

<u>The STS Application System</u>, company's flagship product line, has earned a reputation for optimizing customer growth by providing full season application capability and <u>versatile attachment solutions</u> for performing precise spray, side-dressing, detasseling and cover crop interseeding applications.

For 2014, the pioneers of the industry introduced to the market a revamp of their flagship STS product, featuring a new drive system, cab design, engine and solution system for optimal operator efficiency, safety and performance. In addition, Hagie Mfg.'s <u>High Speed Toolbar (HsTB)</u>, <u>Cover Crop Interseeder (CCI)</u> and STS with Tracks, have been named recipients of <u>AE50 awards</u>, deemed to be one of the year's most innovative designs in engineering products for the food and agriculture industries.

"It is an honor to have three very different products from Hagie Mfg. recognized as AE50 award recipients in the same year. These designations are a testament to our team having deep understanding of the customer, as well as to the technical talent and collaboration that enables our company to quickly deliver innovative product solutions to the market," states Nick Rieck, Director of Engineering.

Marrying Economic Drivers with Environmental Benefits

Hagie Mfg. was founded in 1947, when Ray Hagie provided a solution to a need in the industry with his invention of the-world's first self-propelled sprayer. Today, the sixty-seven year old company is proud to remain the only family owned application equipment manufacturer in the United States. Together with the leadership of Alan Hagie, third generation owner and grandson of Founder Ray Hagie, the lowa based company continues to build upon a rich reputation as an industry leader for optimizing customer growth by providing the most innovative application solutions in the industry.

As an lowa grower, Alan also has a strong understanding of the progressing challenges and needs in the industry, as he also faces the same challenges on his family farm operation. With the evolving needs for enhanced nutrient management, Hagie Mfg. offers a line of attachment solutions enhancing capability for performing precise and timely <u>full season nitrogen</u> and <u>cover crop interseeding</u> applications. "We are committed to doing meaningful work and providing innovative application solutions that drive economic benefits while also enhancing stewardship efforts," added Alan Hagie.

In our commitment to enhance agricultural stewardship, Hagie Mfg. is actively involved with key partners whom are collectively working to positively influence and drive the productivity, sustainability and profitability of the industry. These partners include Agriculture's Clean Water Alliance (ACWA), Boone River Watershed Nutrient Management Initiative, Iowa Working Cover Crop Group and the Responsible Nutrient Management Foundation (RNMF). Additionally, Hagie Mfg. annually sponsors a Recognition Luncheon honoring the Iowa Environmental Leaders to recognize exemplary voluntary efforts of Iowa's farmers as environmental leaders committed to healthy soils and improved water quality. This event is in conjunction with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Hagie Manufacturing Company, located in Clarion, IA, optimizes our customers' growth by providing the most innovative crop protection solutions in the agriculture industry. After introducing the world's first self-propelled sprayer in 1947, Hagie Manufacturing Company has continued to be a pioneer in the industry with innovations such as front-mounted booms, hydrostatic drives and hydraulically-adjustable booms. A foundation with values built around employees, customers and innovation inspires sustained growth and success. Hagie Manufacturing Company is committed to providing state-of-the-art crop protection solutions while delivering a superior customer experience, yet continuing to build on our family owned traditions and values. For more information, visit www.hagie.com.