



Energy Solutions for a Greener Tomorrow

For Immediate Release

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“GREEN OFFICE CHALLENGE” GRAND PRIZE GOES TO NEW CANAAN COMPANY

With New Spin on Casual Friday, Company’s “Green Friday” Idea Wows Judges, Inspires Employees to Go Green 24/7

WESTPORT, Conn. (February 26, 2010) – Gault Energy and WEBE 108 FM today announced the grand prize winner of its “Green Office Challenge.” New Canaan-based U.S. Chemicals, a 50-year-old woman-owned chemical distribution business serving the textiles, cosmetics, and personal care products industries, among others, won the online competition, which attracted more than 60 Fairfield County companies to participate. Designed to help local businesses reduce their carbon footprint and make 2010 their greenest year ever, the companies participated in five weekly challenges to trim their waste, reduce their energy consumption, implement a smarter transportation plan, conserve water and develop their own ideas to conserve energy and precious natural resources. U.S. Chemicals’ Green Office Challenge grand prize includes an opportunity to share its winning green office strategies on-air with WEBE 108 listeners. The company also won the use of a Smart Car provided by Smart Center Fairfield for the weekend.

The company impressed the judges with the scope of its green initiatives, which included shutting down office computers at the end of each workday, packing their lunches in reusable containers and eliminating plastic bags and plastic plates, using washable mugs rather than disposable cups and bottles, turning off the office heat in the evening and using hall and bathroom lights sparingly, recycling paper and only printing when absolutely necessary, riding bikes and trains to work, walking to lunch and instituting an electronic payment system with vendors and customers, alike. The judges were especially impressed that the Green Office Challenge also inspired the company to create “Green Friday” at the end of each workweek, when the entire office dresses in green to remind each other to carry the green mindset home for the weekend.

“Being a role model in an industry not necessarily associated with being green is what made U.S. Chemicals really stand out,” says Sam Gault, president of Gault Energy. An environmentally conscious company, it’s no surprise that U.S. Chemicals participated in the Gault Energy Green Office Challenge. "In addition to the many initiatives the company undertook with our Green Office Challenge, U.S. Chemicals has incorporated environmentally sound best practices into its corporate culture by supporting and rewarding environmentally responsible manufacturers, distributors and suppliers of chemical products and services.”

The Green Office Challenge builds on Gault Energy’s promise to challenge its more than 100 employees and its thousands of customers to significantly reduce their collective carbon footprint in 2010, an initiative the company started in 2008 with its groundbreaking alliance with the non-profit Polar Bears International. “We’re especially pleased that our Green Office Challenge inspired so many Fairfield County companies to go green. Helping their employees make energy conservation a priority in the office is critical to making energy conservation a fundamental part of their lives at home as well, especially since the average American structure wastes 58 percent of its energy,” adds Gault.

About Gault, Energy and the Gault-PBI Alliance

For more than 145 years one of Westport's most philanthropic families has also been one of its most storied energy providers. More than just an energy supplier, Gault prides itself on being an "energy partner" to its home heating oil, propane and cooling customers. Fulfilling his vision of transforming Fairfield County into a national role model for environmental change, in 2008, Sam Gault, the fifth-generation to lead the company, made energy conservation and education about global warming and the plight of the polar bear the cornerstone of the company's corporate mission. Inspiring homeowners to embrace "energy solutions for a greener tomorrow," Gault opened a new chapter with the non-profit organization Polar Bears International (PBI), giving his family business a new beginning and a new focus: to inspire a cross-generational sea change in energy consumption behaviors at the grassroots level. Gault's groundbreaking, 10-year alliance with PBI launched the first energy conservation movement of its kind in Fairfield County, empowering families to make significant lifestyle changes that would reduce their carbon footprint and encourage their youth to become the leaders of tomorrow on resolving global energy issues. For more information, visit www.gault-pbi.com.

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