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Mathews Company Celebrates 60th Anniversary in 2014

Crystal Lake, IL – Mathews Company (M-C), a global manufacturer of high quality, innovative agricultural equipment specializing in grain dryers, will celebrate its 60th year in business in 2014. Mathews Company has long been known for building quality agricultural products that last.

M-C will kick off the year-long celebration in January with its Annual Dealer Sales Meeting to be held in Puerto Rico. M-C Dealers from all over the world will come together to meet and learn from one another as the company plans many group activities, intended to foster networking between dealers, and to thank and celebrate the dealers' years of loyalty and hard work during M-C's 60 years of business. Mid-year, valued M-C employees and their families will enjoy a 60th anniversary celebration picnic complete with a cookout and entertainment. Stories past and present will be shared as second and third generation family owners pay respect to, and remember M-C's humble beginnings.

Mathews Company started inconspicuously in the garage of Mr. B.C. Mathews in 1954. The first product manufactured was a forage chopper, designed to cut hay and chop green corn stalks (silage) for feeding dairy cattle. Business flourished, and in 1956, the facility was moved to an industrial area in Crystal Lake, IL. As the company grew, new products were developed such as a revolutionary mower-conditioner; a windrower for cutting hay and small grain crops; stalk shredders for pulverizing crop residues for easy plow down and pest control; a flail mower, known as the *LAWN GENIE™* that was unique for its time, allowing the cutting and picking up of material in one pass; and, of course, the M-C Continuous Flow Grain Dryer.

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It was the advent of the continuous flow grain dryer that really gave Mathews Company its boost, making the Company the world's largest single manufacturer of continuous flow grain dryers at the time. In 1965, the Company had outgrown the facilities and purchased about 50 acres of land to the North, and a larger plant was erected. Many expansions have taken place over the years, and it is still the location where Mathews Company operates to date.

Acquisitions over the years, such as the purchase of the Kan-Sun® brand of tower dryers, launched M-C into producing its most successful product to date: the 10' diameter Vacuum Cool Tower Series Grain Dryer. This Tower Series Grain Dryer is the most successful product M-C sells in the U.S. With more than 20 years' experience in engineering and manufacturing vacuum cool continuous flow dryers - more than any other single company in the industry - M-C has proudly launched an advanced "smart" grain dryer in 2013 that has incorporated the industry-leading Dryer Master® Moisture Control System into its own Pinnacle Lite Control System.

While the popular U.S. tower-style dryer is used primarily for corn and wheat drying, producers outside of the U.S. often choose from two of M-C's Low Profile-style dryer models. The Low Profile-style allows producers to select from different heat modes to accommodate the diversity in the grain types grown in different regions of the world. The Infinity Series Grain Dryer is used primarily for on-farm drying, while the Legacy Series Grain Dryer is used by commercial operations outside the U.S. The Legacy Series allows producers to expand their drying capacity by simply adding additional modules. As the commercial operation grows, so can their capacity for drying, simply by adding an additional module.

In 2010, the Propane Education & Research Council awarded a grant to Mathews Company to develop a new propane-based, energy-efficient grain dryer that incorporates vacuum cool technology into a low-profile style dryer. The Trilogy Series Grain Dryer was born. This dryer offers the option of three different drying modes, popular with those who want the cost saving efficiencies of the tower, but still have the options and benefits of drying in different modes.

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New product development and technological improvements have been on the fast track in recent years for M-C. It's been a focus of Mathews Company's engineering team to conduct extensive field tests on each new product or product improvement prior to commercial sale. Head of engineering, Joe Shulfer was instrumental in the successful engineering of the Trilogy Series Grain Dryer and in bringing about many changes Mathews Company has experienced over the last few years. Promoted to President in 2013, Shulfer sees unlimited potential for the M-C brand. "We have listened carefully to what producers need from their grain drying systems, and because of this, we have been able to streamline our product development efforts over the last 5 years," says Shulfer. "Incorporating feedback from our end-users has allowed us to make unprecedented advancements in our technology compared to competitive offerings. The innovation that we have recently deployed within our company through products and people, is just one example of how Mathews Company is building for the future as we enter into our 60th year of business in 2014."

M-C employees hold to the values that founder B.C. Mathews instilled in the company back in 1954... "Make it easy to operate, make it safe and make it last." Today's focus, "Building for the Future," takes Mr. Mathews' belief one step further. As technology use in agriculture continues to expand worldwide, M-C researches and incorporates the latest technologies that make sense for both on-farm and commercial operations for the 21st century.

Headquartered in Crystal Lake, IL (U.S.A), Mathews Company has been a leading manufacturer of high quality innovative agriculture equipment, specializing in grain drying since 1954. Mathews Company is committed to "Building for the Future" striving to provide technologically superior products and unmatched service through innovation, expertise and quality. M-C dryers are available through authorized dealers worldwide. The company's web address is www.mathewscompany.com.

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