



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
October 21, 2009

**Media Contact:** Rebecca Kruse  
Telephone: 1.630.305.0003  
[rkruise@davidjamesgroup.com](mailto:rkruise@davidjamesgroup.com)

## **COGENT POWER INC. RECEIVES THE ASSOCIATION FOR MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE'S 2009 CANADIAN REGIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD**

**ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, III.** – The Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME) recently announced Cogent Power Inc. as the 2009 recipient of its Manufacturing Excellence Award for the Canadian Region. The Burlington, Ontario-based company, a leading supplier of electrical products, is one of eight to receive the award that signifies high levels of excellence have been achieved and sustained during the past year.

In today's volatile economy, it is necessary for companies to stay competitive in the global marketplace, as well as maintain profitability and stable customers. All award recipients recognized by AME are not only surviving, but are thriving despite the current economic conditions.

"Cogent Power has truly made a name for themselves in the manufacturing industry, contributing high-quality electrical products and solutions to customers worldwide," said Ralph Keller, AME president. "Within the past five years, the company's leaders and employees have reached tremendous achievements, including growing sales from \$34.7 million to over \$120 million, and successfully transitioning to a Lean culture."

As a manufacturer of steel, components and value-added solutions to engineered magnetic products, Cogent Power's Burlington plant focuses on processing grain-oriented and non-oriented electrical steels used in its products. On the Lean journey since 2004, the company has been especially recognized for outstanding growth through strategic relationships and service, and engaging employees in training programs aimed to create a "self-propelled" improvement culture. Cogent Power employs 200 people and provides its products in four countries. In 2008, Cogent Power posted revenues of over \$120 million.

"A transformation like this presents some questions and resistance," said Ron Harper, president of Cogent Power. "As human beings none of us want to change just for the sake of change. We constantly stress that we're not changing just to change. Continuous improvement is about creating better results for our business and for our customers, and trying to create a sustainable future."

AME's Manufacturing Excellence Awards honor companies that demonstrate significant progress in their journeys toward enterprise excellence through continuous improvement over a three-year period. Regional award recipients are selected from AME's nine geographic regions in the United States and Canada; one regional recipient is also named the North American award recipient.

The following companies received AME's 2009 Manufacturing Excellence Awards.

- Canadian Region: Cogent Power Inc.; Burlington, Ontario
- Great Lakes Region: Daman Products Company, Inc.; Mishawaka, Ind.
- Mid-Atlantic Region: Currier Plastics Inc.; Auburn, N.Y.

- North Central Region: Medtronic; Brooklyn Park, Minn.
- Northeastern Region: HABCO; Glastonbury, Conn.
- Southeastern Region: Automation Engineering; Greenville, S.C.
- Southwestern Region: Dresser Wayne; Austin, Texas
- Western Region: DJO, LLC; Vista, Calif.

# # #

### **About the Association for Manufacturing Excellence**

The Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME) is the premier not-for-profit organization dedicated to the journey of continuous improvement and enterprise excellence. AME's membership is composed of a trusted network of individuals who are committed to leveraging the practitioner-to-practitioner and company-to-company shared-learning experience. Through engaging workshops, seminars and plant tours, and industry-leading conferences, AME members are continually discovering and implementing new continuous improvement strategies and best practices. AME offers its members a multitude of valuable resources to help them stay abreast of current industry developments, and improve the skills, competitiveness, and overall success of their organizations. For more information, visit [www.ame.org](http://www.ame.org) or email [info@ame.org](mailto:info@ame.org).

### **About Cogent Power Inc.**

Cogent Power offers the widest range of magnetic steel components and services to the transformer industry. Cogent is the largest and most diversified solutions provider in this market.

Our product centered strengths, combined with high quality design and service performance make Cogent the supplier of choice in a business environment constantly demanding more value and continuous improvement.