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Toyo Ink Awarded the “Benny” in International Print Competition

August 20, 2007, Tokyo, Japan and New York, USA – Toyo Ink Mfg. Co., Ltd., in cooperation with its Americas regional headquarters, Toyo Ink International Corp., was awarded the “Benny”, or the best of category honor, in the 2007 Premier Print Awards for its entry, the Toyo Ink Group 100th Anniversary Commemorative Calendar 2007. Toyo Ink Mfg. received a Benny in two categories: *Calendars* and *Specialty Inks or Coatings, Fragrances, or “Invisible” Printing Inks*.

The Premier Print Awards

The Premier Print Awards, the graphic arts industry’s largest and most prestigious worldwide printing competition, recognizes outstanding achievement in print production. It is hosted by US-based Printing Industries of America/Graphic Arts Technical Foundation (PIA/GATF), the world’s largest graphic arts trade association serving the interests of more than 12,000 member companies. In its 58th year, the annual contest promotes excellence in print communications and rewards companies and individuals who produce the very best in print media. This year, over 5,100 entries were received from printing and graphic arts firms from 18 countries around the world. Judges awarded the Benny to the top entry in each category.

The Toyo Ink Group Entry

The Toyo Ink Group 100th Anniversary Commemorative Calendar 2007 measures 20.5H x 23.6W inches (52.5 x 59.5 centimeters). The theme the company selected was *Identity*, as the group embarks on a new millennium and reexamines its corporate identity and position in society.

Various offset printing techniques and specialized printing processes were utilized in realistically recreating in print form the palettes and textures of a variety of motifs depicting *The Beauty of Japan*. To reinforce the realism of the bamboo flower basket and textured surfaces of the lacquerware, china jar and iron kettle, a multilayered UV coating with thicknesses ranging from 40 to 200 microns was applied. Toyo Ink’s Kaleido series of wide-color-gamut inks were used to reproduce the vibrant colors in the kimono fabric and tortoiseshell hairpins, achieving a level of printing quality impossible to do with conventional four-process inks. Flock processing or two types of nylon pile, material primarily used in cosmetic powder puffs, were applied to depict the snow-packed temple grounds as naturally as possible.

The Chuo Printing Co., Ltd., Fukuju Sangyo Co., Ltd., Seieido Printing Co., Ltd., Toppan Printing Co., Ltd., all based in Japan, joined forces with Toyo Ink Mfg. to produce the calendar.

“It’s an honor to be recognized by the industry as a company that produces award winning print,” said Takehiko Watanabe, a member of Toyo Ink Mfg’s Public Relations Division, who served as creative director to the calendar project. “Winning the Benny in a year in which we celebrate the Toyo Ink Group’s 100th year in operation makes this landmark year all the more special. We are grateful for the opportunity to show this printed piece to many scores of people from all over the world. If we have inspired graphic artists and customers alike develop an interest in wide-color-gamut print or special printing techniques as seen in our calendar, and they carry over this inspiration into their own work, these are the moments we feel proud knowing we have given a little back to the graphic arts industry.”

Recognized the World Over for Print Excellence

The Toyo Ink Group calendar has attracted worldwide recognition for outstanding achievement in print production. It not only took the Silver Prize at the Stuttgart Calendar Show 2007 in January, but also the “Prize of Chairman” at the All-Japan Calendar Contest organized by the Japan Federation of Printing Industries and Japan Printing News Co., Ltd. in December 2006.

In addition to the two Bennys, the Premier Print Award judges bestowed on the Toyo Ink Group calendar a Certificate of Merit in two categories: *Environmentally Sound Materials* and *Special Innovation Awards – Printing*.

About the Toyo Ink Group

The Toyo Ink Group is headed by Tokyo-based parent Toyo Ink Mfg. Co., Ltd. The Group consists of 26 companies in Japan and 47 companies from 16 countries around the world (USA, France, Belgium, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, The Philippines, Indonesia, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, India, China, South Korea, Taiwan, Australia and New Zealand). The Toyo Ink Group is a leading manufacturer and supplier of a variety of chemical products based on its unique color materials, adhesives and resins technologies accumulated over a century of manufacturing expertise in pigments and printing inks. In recent years, it has been making worldwide headway with its specialty chemicals for a wide variety of fields, such as materials for flat panel displays, leveraging its proprietary technologies and advanced manufacturing model. See www.toyoink.co.jp for more information.

About Toyo Ink International Corporation

Headquartered in New York, Toyo Ink International is the holding company for the US operations of parent Toyo Ink Manufacturing Co., Ltd. of Japan. Toyo Ink is a leading provider of high-quality, high-performance printing inks, organic pigments and other chemicals and a major distributor of graphic arts supplies and related products for the North American market. See www.toyoink.com for more information.

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