



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oregon Cutting Systems Group Sends Aid to Schools in Sri Lanka

Portland, Oregon, February 2, 2005 – Oregon Cutting Systems Group of Blount, Inc., the world leader in chainsaw bar and chain manufacturing, sent funds to help schools in Sri Lanka impacted by the tsunami. The donation was sent through Mr. Najeeb Deen of Deen Brothers Imports (Pvt) Ltd., Blount’s distributor for Sri Lanka, who also serves as the president of Paragon Organization for the Matara Province in the southern part of the country.

Paragon Organization works to elevate the educational level of children in their region, with a special focus on the less affluent. For the children who survived the disaster, the need is great. “They need books and school materials, uniforms/dress, shoes and most important is their health,” wrote Mr. Deen in a letter to Oregon Cutting Systems Group.

“Blount recognizes the valuable work that Paragon Organization and others do everyday, especially in response to natural disasters,” said James S. Osterman, CEO of Blount, Inc. “We are working through the business partners of our organization who live and work in these regions to provide assistance.”

Oregon Cutting Systems Group: Founded in 1947, the Oregon Cutting Systems Group of Blount, Inc. is a world leader in providing high quality, original equipment and replacement parts to the outdoor power equipment industry. The replacement products, sold under the Oregon® brand include: chainsaw chain, guide bars, sharpening tools, lawnmower blades, trimmer line and heads, spark plugs, belts, and air filters. More information about Oregon Cutting Systems and the Oregon® brand of quality replacement parts can be found at www.oregonchain.com.

Blount, Inc.: Blount, Inc. is a diversified international company with three principal business segments: Outdoor Products, Lawnmower and Industrial & Power Equipment. Blount sells its products in more than 100 countries around the world. For more information about Blount, Inc., visit www.blount.com.

Paragon Organization: The Paragon Organization of Matara, Sri Lanka focuses primarily on social work directed at elevating the educational level of the region’s children, with emphasis on the less affluent. Donations can be made to the Paragon Organization c/o Bank of Ceylon, Bazaar Branch, Matara, Sri Lanka.