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Turner Medical Inc. Named Alabama's 2010 Small Manufacturer of the Year

MONTGOMERY – The Business Council of Alabama and The Alabama Technology Network, in partnership with The Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama and The National Association of Manufacturers, presented the prestigious Alabama Manufacturer of the Year Awards to three Alabama manufacturing companies today at the RSA Alabama Activity Center.

Turner Medical Inc. of Athens was honored at the luncheon today with the 2010 Small Alabama Manufacturer of the Year Award. The Small Alabama Manufacturer of the Year Award goes to a manufacturing company that has 99 or fewer employees and has demonstrated superior performance in the areas of customer focus, employee commitment, operational excellence, continuous improvement, profitable growth and investment in training and retraining.

Faced with supplying an obsolete niche market, Turner Medical transitioned from a leading supplier of automated equipment for the automotive and appliance industries to a manufacturer of surgical instruments for the medical industry. Today, Turner Medical is one of the highest quality medical manufacturers in the Southeast and one of the fastest growing facilities in north Alabama. Turner Medical's 80 employees supply a wide variety of surgical instruments as well different implantable rods, plates and screws to the orthopedic medical history.

Other winners were:

Large Manufacturer of the Year (400 or more employees)

ADTRAN, Inc., Huntsville

Medium Manufacturer of the Year (100-399 employees)

STERIS Corporation, Montgomery

The Alabama Manufacturer of the Year Awards program is an annual recognition of Alabama manufacturing enterprises that exhibit excellence in leadership, performance, profitability and work force relations. The awards are presented in three size categories to ensure fair recognition of all applicants regardless of the size of their work force.

The Business Council of Alabama (BCA) is a statewide business association representing the interests and concerns of nearly 5,000 Alabama businesses and industries that employ approximately 750,000 Alabamians. Manufacturers comprise the largest single segment of BCA's membership. BCA is Alabama's exclusive representative of the National Association of Manufacturers' National Industrial Council.

The Alabama Technology Network (ATN) is a division of the Alabama College System, partnering with the University of Alabama System, Auburn University and the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama. The network consists of 14 centers throughout the state to deliver training and technologies to existing industries with the goal of enhancing the global competitiveness of Alabama's manufacturers. ATN is an affiliate of the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NIST-MEP).

The Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama (CCAA) represents the needs and issues that affect the Chambers of Commerce that comprise its membership. The CCAA provides information on governmental affairs and issues that affect the local business community.

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) advocates on behalf of its members to enhance the competitiveness of manufacturers, reinforces legislative and regulatory activities of this member firms.