

## **St. Catharines company to be awarded for commitment to saving lives**

*As a recipient of blood products, supporting the blood system is an  
important job for Exocor's president*

**St. Catharines ON (Monday, April 19, 2010)**—St. Catharines-based Exocor will be awarded a Certificate of Congratulations at Canadian Blood Services' Ninth Annual *Honouring Our Lifeblood* this Thursday. Exocor president, Leo Walsh, will be among 173 individuals from the Niagara Region to be honoured for helping to meet patient needs—in the region and across the country.

Each year, Canadian Blood Services honours community partners as well as other local residents who have achieved milestone donations of 50 or more units of blood or platelets.

For Walsh, born and raised in St. Catharines, promoting blood donation among Exocor employees is a personal priority. As a hemophiliac, he understands that recipients depend on donors—sometime for their lives. Walsh was diagnosed with hemophilia B at birth a bleeding disorder effecting males only that prevents normal clotting function. Doctors advised his parents that his life expectancy would likely be cut short.

Walsh says, "Access to a constant blood supply has made all the difference and gave me long term health. In other parts of the world, people without the benefits of organizations like Canadian Blood Services do not share the quality of life that I enjoy". He considers himself very fortunate and thanks the men and women of Canadian Blood Services and the tens of thousands of donors that have made this possible.

Exocor employees fully embrace their role in helping to ensure that the blood flows. Exocor is one of the few companies that allow their employees time to donate during work hours. Michael Falle, Senior Account Manager at Exocor, initiated the Canadian Blood Services Life Bus program in 2008. Since then, employees have boarded the door-to-door shuttle to make regular trips to the St. Catharines clinic located on Ontario Street. In 2009, Exocor further solidified their commitment to saving lives by becoming a member of Canadian Blood Services' *Partners for Life* program. *Partners for Life* is a program in which organizations commit to achieving an annual donation pledge.

"Exocor's commitment is proof of how an organization can create a foundation for promoting blood awareness and fostering a culture where blood donation is supported and encouraged," says Judy Compton, Director, Donor & Clinic Services for Canadian Blood Services in Central and Southern Ontario.

[MORE]

**WHAT** Ninth Annual *Honouring Our Lifeblood*

**WHEN** Thursday, April 22 at 7 p.m.

**WHERE** Best Western Beacon Harbourside (2793 Beacon Blvd., Jordan)

**About Canadian Blood Services**

Canadian Blood Services is a national, not-for-profit charitable organization that manages the supply of blood and blood products in all provinces and territories outside of Quebec. Canadian Blood Services also oversees the OneMatch Stem Cell and Marrow Network, and provides national leadership for organ and tissue donation and transplantation. Canadian Blood Services operates 42 permanent collection sites and more than 20,000 donor clinics annually. The provincial and territorial Ministries of Health provide operational funding to Canadian Blood Services. The federal government, through Health Canada, is responsible for regulating the blood system. For more information, please visit our website, [www.blood.ca](http://www.blood.ca).

**About Exocor**

Exocor is Canada's leading solution-seller of high performance welding filler metals used for fabrication, repair and refurbishment across a diverse group of heavy industries. They are in their 13<sup>th</sup> year of operation with distribution centers in four provinces with their head office located in St. Catharines.

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