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CONTACT: David Stoyka - Marx Layne
dstoyka@marxlayne.com
Young Lee – KSS
leey@keysafetyinc.com

KSS Recognized For Pelvis-Thorax Side Airbag by PACE Awards



STERLING HEIGHTS, MICH (April 22, 2009) – Key Safety Systems (KSS), a leading global supplier of advanced engineered safety products, including inflators, airbags, steering wheels, and seatbelts for automotive and non-automotive markets, announced that it has earned an honorable mention by the PACE Awards for its Pelvis-Thorax Side Airbag (PTAB). The award was presented to Joseph Massa, Director of Airbag Engineering, on April 20th at Max M. Fisher Music Center located in Detroit, Michigan.

The PTAB is designed to meet enhanced government regulations (FMVSS 214) and NCAP side impact standards for vehicles intended to protect the pelvis and

thorax areas. KSS' new airbag is secured to the outside of the seat frame and features dual-chambers to cushion and position occupants in an event. During deployment, the pelvic area of the PTAB is filled with gas and a specifically designed seam between the two chambers then vents the gas to the thoracic region. Some of the energy from the inflation helps to push the occupant away from any possible intrusion into the vehicle from the outside, while still providing cushioning. The transfer speed of the gas is controlled by the occupant's force against the lower chamber of the bag.

“Automotive safety continues to advance as technology and regulations evolve. With our Pelvis-Thorax Side Airbag, KSS has climbed to the front of the curve,” said Mark Wehner, Chief Technology Officer, KSS. “Being recognized by PACE for our PTAB validates our global efforts to provide customers with the most progressive safety system on a worldwide platform.”

The PACE (Premier Automotive Suppliers' Contribution to Excellence) Award was presented by Automotive News, Ernst & Young and Transportation Research Center Inc., and recognized suppliers for superior innovation, technological advancement and business performance.

About KSS

Key Safety Systems (KSS) is a global leader in the design, development and manufacturing of automotive safety-critical components and systems including inflators, airbags, steering wheels, and seatbelts. Its products are featured in more than 300 vehicle models produced by over 60 well-diversified customers worldwide. KSS is headquartered in Sterling Heights, Michigan with a global network of 34 sales, engineering, and manufacturing facilities generating approximately \$1 billion in sales. The company has 4 main technical centers located in the U.S., Germany, China, and Japan.