



NEWS RELEASE
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**THIEL TOOL & ENGINEERING CO., INC., SELECTS
MISSOURI ENTERPRISE FOR MARKET RESEARCH STUDY**

St. Louis, Missouri, January 30, 2006 – Thiel Tool & Engineering Co., Inc., has selected Missouri Enterprise to conduct an extensive market research survey of its customers and independent representatives of its electric fastener/staple product group. The survey data will be used for future product and market planning purposes according to Company President George Marklin.

The study will help Thiel Tool & Engineering Co. Inc., define the potential market size for its fasteners, offer analyses of the competitive environment and establish new ways to better serve its customers, Steve Swaney, sales and marketing manager, stated.

In addition to its fastener division, Thiel Tool & Engineering Co., Inc. is leading manufacturer of precision metal stampings and assemblies for the automotive, transportation/heavy equipment, construction, and HVAC markets. The company offers customers a wide range of precision progressive die stamping presses ranging from 100 tons to 800 tons in capacity. Thiel Tool & Engineering Co., Inc., specializes in sophisticated, complex deep drawn stampings in medium to heavy gauge steel.

The company also offers customers tooling and design engineering. This is especially important on large volume stampings with critical tolerances and complex shapes per Tom Naeger, manager of engineering.

Founded in 1945, the company employs 75 employees in an 80,000 square feet facility in North St. Louis.

Missouri Enterprise is a not-for-profit corporation that provides business and technical assistance to help Missouri companies succeed. It manages the Manufacturing Extension Partnership in Missouri, an Advanced Manufacturing Specialist Training Program (funded by a U.S. Department of Labor grant), a value added agriculture program, and one of the state's Innovation Centers.

Missouri Enterprise Project Manager Al Marcus will conduct the study, which is expected to be complete this spring.