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GrafTech International celebrates 125 years in business

Parma, OH (July 27, 2011)—The year 1886 was a busy one indeed: a new beverage named Coca-Cola® was patented, the Statue of Liberty was dedicated and US President Grover Cleveland was the first (and only) President to be married in the White House.

It is also the year that GrafTech International's predecessor, The National Carbon Company, was founded in Cleveland, Ohio. The company started as a manufacturer of arc carbons for lighting, but by the turn of the century had made significant innovations in the production of dry cell batteries, dynamo and motor brushes, carbon anodes for the aluminum and calcium carbide industries, and graphite electrodes for the steel industry.

Since then, that company—now known as GrafTech—has expanded beyond graphite electrodes to become a world leader in graphite products for diverse industries, including metal production, advanced electronics, chemicals, oil and gas, aerospace and transportation. Its history includes a number of remarkable inventions, achievements and recognitions. GrafTech currently holds over 800 patents and patent-pending applications.

Most recently, the company also began enhancing its expertise through strategic acquisitions: C/G Electrodes and Seadrift Coke were acquired in late 2010, and Micron Research Corporation in February 2011.

Moving forward, GrafTech is focusing on maximizing its strengths to ensure its continued momentum. "We have achieved such longevity through teamwork and innovation. Moving forward, we must grow strategically to ensure we're around for another 125," said GrafTech Chairman and CEO Craig Shular.

In the future: Redefining limits

To achieve that strategic growth, GrafTech is leveraging its 125 years of materials science knowledge and industrial manufacturing expertise to create new materials enabling high-growth markets, such as advanced electronics (e.g., smart phones, LED lighting), energy generation (e.g., solar, nuclear, oil and gas exploration), and energy storage (e.g., Lithium ion batteries, vanadium redox batteries, fuel cells and solar thermal).

GrafTech's own expertise in these areas is compounded by the work we do with our external partners utilizing the region's top universities, business organizations, and national labs to build on experience. Recognition for these innovations includes winning seven R&D 100 Awards in the last nine years, a tribute to revolutionary technologies as they are introduced into the marketplace.

As a result, GrafTech is clearly meeting our stated goal: To enable customer leadership better and faster than our competition.

For more information about GrafTech's history, innovations and 125th anniversary, please visit www.graftech.com/125.

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About GrafTech

GrafTech International is a global company with 125 years' experience in the graphite industry, offering innovative solutions for the most challenging applications. Our customers are located in over 65 countries and represent a wide range of industries and end markets, including steel manufacturing, alternative energy and advanced electronics. GrafTech operates 16 manufacturing facilities on four continents and employs approximately 3,000 people. For additional information on GrafTech International, call 216.676.2000 or visit www.graftech.com.

*** Images and logos are available upon request. Please contact Betsy Keck at 216.676.2315 or Betsy.Keck@graftech.com.*

Coca-Cola is a registered trademark of The Coca-Cola Company.

A history of innovation and growth

Throughout its 125-year history, GrafTech International has achieved many successes, including the following milestones:

- **1886:** The National Carbon Company, GrafTech's predecessor, is founded
- **1891:** Purchases 115 acres of land in Lakewood, Ohio, for a new factory, "Factory A," that is still in use today
- **1896:** Dr. Edward G. Acheson makes the first synthetic graphite and patents the process
- **1904:** The Clarksburg, West Virginia, facility is built
- **1914:** Introduces the first 12-inch diameter graphite electrodes
- **1926:** Produces the first impregnated electrode pins with high density and high strength
- **1956:** Receives an Oscar® (Class I Scientific or Technical Achievement Award) for the development and production of a high-efficiency yellow flame carbon for motion picture color photography
- **1956:** Dedicates the Parma, Ohio, Research & Development Center on September 18
- **1956-1978:** Develops high performance carbon fibers; this work is later recognized in 2003 with a National Historic Chemical Landmark from the American Chemical Society
- **1969:** Develops rocket nozzles and re-entry vehicle nose cones
- **1985:** Develops advanced technology for carbon/carbon composites used in spacecraft
- **1990:** Introduces first 30-inch diameter graphite electrodes for UHP DC arc furnaces
- **1995:** Develops new graphite for the U.S. Advanced Battery Consortium for lithium batteries in electric vehicles
- **1999:** Develops first thermal interface materials for electronic thermal management
- **2004:** Introduces optimized pinless joint design for large-diameter graphite electrodes
- **2007:** Commercializes high-temperature insulation solutions for the polysilicon and solar industries
- **2007:** Sponsors a robotics competition team at East Tech High School in Cleveland, Ohio, which quickly blossoms into a long-term relationship with the school
- **2010:** Launches highest thermal conductivity SPREADERSHIELD™ products for electronics and lighting applications
- **2010:** In November, closes mergers with two U.S.-based companies: C/G Electrodes, a graphite electrode producer, and Seadrift Coke, the world's second largest needle coke producer
- **2011:** In February, closes merger with super fine grain graphite materials manufacturer Micron Research Corporation

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SPREADERSHIELD is a trademark of GrafTech International Holdings Inc.

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GrafTech asked its global team: What can *you* do with the number “125”?

Parma, OH (July 27, 2011)—Parma-based GrafTech International is celebrating its 125th anniversary. Founded in 1886 and headquartered in Parma, Ohio, the company manufactures graphite electrodes used in the production of steel, as well as numerous products for use in high-growth markets, such as advanced electronics and solar energy.

Earlier this year, in an effort to engage its global team in the anniversary celebration, all GrafTech locations were asked to develop and implement a community service project using the number “125.” A few examples were given to help illustrate the request, but the teams were encouraged to do something that had significance to them at the local level.

The resulting efforts have varied widely in their focus, but each one has achieved the primary objective: give back to the communities that have housed GrafTech’s many facilities over the last 125 years.

“GrafTech is fortunate to call so many wonderful communities home and we owe much of our success to the strong relationships we enjoy with them,” said GrafTech Chairman and CEO Craig Shular. “These projects were our ‘thank you’ to them.”

Mr. Shular added, “Our global team truly amazed us with their creativity and enthusiasm for this request.” Unable to decide on just one, many locations completed multiple projects. A few examples of what was done by Team GrafTech:

- The Shanghai, China team gave away 125 first aid bags to local low-income residents. Afterwards, local firemen performed a fire drill and demonstrated how to use the items in the bags.
- The team in Monterrey, Mexico volunteered 125 man hours to fix up an elementary school.
- In Pamplona, Spain, the team facilitated an event for 125 adults with disabilities (most of them with Down Syndrome) on how to develop self-independence. During the event, each of the participants wrote a personal wish on a small paper and tied it onto a balloon, which then were released one by one.
- The St. Marys, Pennsylvania team created 125 care packages for a local organization that provides assistance to abuse victims.

For a complete list of Team GrafTech's community service projects and to learn more about GrafTech's 125th Anniversary, please visit www.graftech.com/125.

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125th Anniversary Community Service Projects

In early 2011, GrafTech asked its global locations to each implement a local community service project that somehow incorporated the number “125” in recognition of the company’s 125th anniversary. The teams enthusiastically embraced the opportunity, some even completing multiple projects. For more information about our teams’ projects, please visit www.graftech.com/125.

USA LOCATIONS:

Clarksburg, West Virginia:

- The Clarksburg team held a food drive in April that collected over 125 items.
- Also in April, the team hosted a free Community Health Fair that was staffed by team members. During the fair, they gave away 125 health-related items, such as pedometers and wrist bands.
- The team hosted two blood drives in the summer and fall, exceeding their goal of 42 pints of blood (one pint saves three lives; 42 pints would save over 125).
- Throughout 2011, the team will volunteer 125 man hours to fix up a local park.

Columbia, Tennessee:

- In June, the team collected 125 entertainment items that were then donated to The Bridge, a local assisted living facility in Columbia, Tennessee. These items included movies, books for their library and board games.

Lakewood, Ohio:

- Team members and their friends and families cleaned up nearby Madison Park for the Keep Lakewood Beautiful event one Saturday morning in April. The site also donated 125 pairs of gloves for the clean-up effort.
- The Lakewood site donated over 125 pounds of office supplies to Harrison Elementary School in May.

Lawrenceburg, Tennessee:

- The site sponsored a local Little League baseball team and a girls' softball team, which was named the “125s” in recognition of GrafTech’s anniversary.
- Donated \$125 to Leoma Elementary School’s backpack program, which helps meet the nutritional needs of low-income students.
- In celebration of GrafTech’s 125th anniversary, the site is hosting a booth at the Mid-Tennessee State Fair in the fall.

Parma, Ohio (Headquarters):

- The team planted 125 trees, shrubs and flowers around the site’s new outdoor fitness path in July.
- The team also volunteered over 125 man-hours with Junior Achievement.

125th Anniversary Community Service Projects

Emporium, Pennsylvania

- The Emporium team donated \$1,250 to the Children's Reading Program at the Barbara Moscato Brown Memorial Library.

St. Marys, Pennsylvania:

- The St. Marys team collected items for CAPSEA (Citizens Against Physical, Sexual and Emotional Abuse) in Elk and Cameron Counties. The donated items were used to create 125 care packages for abuse victims.

Seadrift Coke, Port Lavaca, Texas:

- The Seadrift Coke team donated 125 lbs. of scrap metal to a local Boy Scouts troop in May.
- In June, the team sponsored a 125-sq. ft. concrete slab on the local firefighters' training grounds.

INTERNATIONAL:

Brazil (Salvador):

- In April, the team donated 125 food baskets to a local food shelter.
- The Salvador team collected 125 books, which were donated to a local elementary school. Team members then spent an afternoon reading to the students, singing, telling stories and playing games.
- They celebrated World Environment Day in June by buying 125 trees and donating them to the community, as well as planting some at the GrafTech site.
- The Salvador team hosted an environmental workshop at a governmental school in Candeias, where they distributed 125 plants that were planted in the school's garden and in the community.
- In July, employees delivered 125 blankets and 125 bowls of soup to a local homeless shelter.

China (Shanghai):

- In June, the Shanghai team gave away 125 first aid bags to local residents. Afterwards, local firemen performed a fire drill and demonstrated how to use the items in the bags.

France (Calais):

- The Calais team originally set a goal of collecting 125 toys for donation to Ludo 62, a non-profit organization that gives toys to children admitted to hospitals and for hospital recreation rooms. They exceeded their goal and presented more than 500 toys to the organization in June.
- The local site also donated money to a local autism organization, which will use the funds to buy toys designed for autistic children.

125th Anniversary Community Service Projects

France (Notre Dame):

- In June, the Notre Dame team donated toys, games and accessories to an association that has 125 handicapped children in its care. The children were surprised and delighted when the toys were presented to them.

Mexico (Monterrey):

- Throughout the spring, the team volunteered 125 man hours to fix up an elementary school.
- The team created 125 care packages that were donated to local elementary school students.
- The company doctor saw 125 medical appointments at the local community center.

Russia (Vyazma):

- In May, the team donated 125 gift bags to the local nursing home.

South Africa (Meyerton):

- Throughout the summer, the team oversaw Junior Achievement programs for 125 underprivileged students at four schools in the area.
- In honor of Nelson Mandela's birthday in July, team members delivered 125 blankets and 40 loaves of bread to four homes that house orphaned and disabled children.

Spain (Pamplona):

- The team facilitated an event in May for 125 adults with disabilities (most of them with Down Syndrome) on how to develop self-independence. During the event, each of the participants wrote a personal wish on a small paper and tied it onto a balloon, which then were released one by one.

Switzerland (Bussigny):

- In 2011 and beyond, GrafTech Bussigny team members were encouraged to volunteer their time to a charitable institution of their choice as part of a community service project called "Solidarity day, solidarity for always." For example, the Bussigny team has been serving dinners at a local soup kitchen with a goal of volunteering 125 hours.
- In 2011, the Bussigny team aims to offer health training sessions to five groups of 25 foreigners who are new to the area.

About us

Overview

GrafTech International is a global company with 125 years of graphite material science expertise, offering innovative solutions for the most challenging applications. We manufacture graphite electrodes, which are essential to the production of electric arc furnace steel, and needle coke, the key raw material in the production of graphite electrodes.

We also manufacture graphite products and provide service for customers in more than 65 countries that represent a wide range of industries and end markets, including steel manufacturing, latest-generation electronics, oil and gas exploration, transportation, and solar energy. GrafTech operates 19 principal manufacturing facilities on four continents and employs more than 3,200 people.

Segments and Products

Our Industrial Materials segment is focused on capitalizing on the growth in global steel demand.

This segment includes the following product lines:

- Graphite Electrodes: Critical component in the production of electric arc furnace steel; used to conduct electricity to melt scrap steel
- Needle Coke: Key raw material in the production of graphite electrodes
- Refractories: Unique brick technology for a superior-performing, long-lasting hearth wall installed in modern integrated steel furnaces worldwide

Our Engineered Solutions segment leverages our graphite material science expertise to penetrate high-growth markets.

This segment includes the following product lines:

- Advanced Graphite Materials: Wide range of highly engineered synthetic graphite products used in a variety of end markets, including solar, oil and gas exploration, and transportation
- Flexible Graphite: Thin, lightweight flexible graphite solutions that are used to dissipate heat in the most demanding thermal applications, including flat screen panel displays, smart phones and LED lighting; also has applications in the development and commercialization of fuel cell and other automotive products

Markets

Steel

- Electric arc furnaces
- Blast furnaces

Advanced Electronics

- Appliances
- Displays
- Handheld devices
- Mobile computing and entertainment
- Telecommunications

Energy

- Polysilicon
- Solar
- Semiconductor
- Oil and gas
- Fuel cell
- Nuclear
- Solid state lighting
- Heating and cooling
- Energy storage

Industrial

- Metallurgical
- Thermal
- Chemical
- Automotive
- Building materials

Aerospace/Defense/Transportation

Locations

In addition to its global headquarters and R&D center in Parma, Ohio, GrafTech has manufacturing sites, sales offices and team members located throughout the world.

North America:

- Parma, Ohio: Corporate headquarters and global technology center
- Biddeford, Maine (two locations): Advanced carbon composite materials manufacturing facility
- Presque Isle, Maine: Advanced carbon composite materials manufacturing facility
- Columbus, Ohio: Sales office
- Lakewood, Ohio: Flexible graphite manufacturing facility and sales office
- Emporium, Pennsylvania: Fine and super fine grain graphite manufacturing facility
- St. Marys, Pennsylvania: Graphite electrode manufacturing facility
- Columbia, Tennessee: Advanced graphite materials and refractory products manufacturing
- Lawrenceburg, Tennessee: Refractory products manufacturing facility
- Port Lavaca, Texas: Needle coke manufacturing facility
- Clarksburg, West Virginia: Advanced graphite materials manufacturing facility and sales office
- Monterrey, Mexico: Graphite electrode manufacturing facility and sales office

South America:

- Salvador, Brazil: Graphite electrode and advanced graphite materials manufacturing facility
- São Paulo, Brazil: Sales office

Africa:

- Meyerton, South Africa: Graphite electrode and advanced graphite materials manufacturing facility and sales office

Europe:

- Calais, France: Graphite electrode manufacturing facility
- Notre Dame, France: Advanced graphite materials machine shop and sales office
- Malonno, Italy: Advanced graphite materials manufacturing and machine shop and sales office
- Moscow, Russia: Sales office
- Vyazma, Russia: Graphite electrode materials machine shop
- Pamplona, Spain: Graphite electrode manufacturing facility and sales office
- Bussigny, Switzerland: Sales office

Asia:

- Beijing, China: Sales office
- Shanghai, China: Sales office
- Hong Kong: Sales office

Key Advantages

Leading market position:

- Graphite electrode industry's low-cost producer
- Major player in graphite electrode markets
- Six graphite electrode manufacturing facilities strategically located on four continents, with customers more than 65 countries
- One of the largest global technical support teams in the industry
- Vertically integrated into the world's second-largest producer of petroleum-based needle coke, a key raw material in the manufacture of graphite electrodes

Competitive advantages:

- Global manufacturing network cannot be easily replicated
- Economies of scale
- 125 years of R&D experience and process know-how
- The only backward-integrated graphite electrode producer

Strong industry fundamentals:

- GrafTech's Industrial Materials' end markets include mini-mills, the growth sector of the steel industry
- Electrodes are consumed at a rate of one electrode every eight to 10 hours
- No commercially viable substitute for graphite electrodes
- GrafTech's Engineered Solutions' end-market applications include the solar, advanced electronics, oil and gas, and transportation industries
- Well-positioned to penetrate high-growth electronics market

Commercializing advantaged technologies:

- Seven R&D 100 Awards for newly commercialized products in the past nine years
- Expertise in fuel cell development and solar energy storage recognized with two U.S. Department of Energy grants in 2010
- One of the industry's largest graphite material science portfolios, with approximately 775 patents and patent-pending applications

Corporate Social Responsibility

GrafTech believes in giving back to the communities where we operate. We focus our community involvement on youth education with the goal of encouraging careers in math, science and technology.

At our Parma headquarters, we enjoy a strong partnership with East Tech High School in Cleveland. Our engineers work annually with the students to build an electronic robot that competes in regional and national competitions, exposing students to many facets of technology and engineering. Our involvement with East Tech over the past four years has expanded to include an active Junior Achievement program along with sponsored field trips, science fairs, scholarships and internships. We have also provided support to the students' annual holiday food drive, the school's computer needs and Ohio Graduation Test study guides.

Our global locations and team members are passionately involved with local organizations. In South Africa, for example, GrafTech supports a program similar to Junior Achievement. Our U.S.-based team members support their local United Way with strong engagement from leadership.

Putting it into perspective: Other 125-year anniversaries

GrafTech International shares its founding year with many notable events, including:

- The Hall-Heroult process for the industrial manufacturing of aluminum is simultaneously discovered by Charles Hall of Oberlin, Ohio and Paul Heroult of France. (In GrafTech's early days, we made anodes for the aluminum industry.)
- Coca-Cola® beverage was patented in the United States
- The Statue of Liberty was dedicated by President Grover Cleveland and celebrated by the first confetti parade in New York City
- Modern field hockey was born in England
- The first World Chess Champion, Wilhelm Steinitz, was recognized
- A general working strike occurred in the U.S., resulting in the standard eight-hour work day
- The first scheduled Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) transcontinental passenger train reached Port Moody in Vancouver
- President Cleveland was married in the White House (only president to this day to be married there)
- Heinz® Tomato Ketchup was launched in the U.K.
- The American Federation of Labor was founded
- Boston native William Kendall successfully swam the Niagara rapids with nothing but a life preserver made of cork
- The City of Vancouver, British Columbia, was incorporated
- George K. Anderson of Memphis, Tennessee, patented the typewriter ribbon
- John Carroll University and St. Ignatius High School were founded in Cleveland, Ohio
- Ohio Valley College of Technology was founded in East Liverpool, Ohio
- Alcoa Inc. was founded
- Avon Products, Inc. was founded
- Mercedes-Benz was founded
- SC Johnson was founded
- Sears Brands, LLC was founded

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Heinz is a registered trademark of the H.J. Heinz Company.*