

ITW Shakeproof

ClearDrive™ Recess Contact:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Automakers can Improve Quality and Reduce Cost With New Fastener that Eliminates Recess Fill

ITW ClearDrive™ Recess Solves Industry Problem

Elgin, Ill. – (July 29, 2009) After years of sorting out defective fasteners due to recess fill, automakers and automotive suppliers can now benefit from the all new ClearDrive™ Recess from ITW Shakeproof. The fastener, which can be used in many automotive applications, provides a solution to an industry wide problem by eliminating recess fill.

Recess fill has been a commonplace problem on fasteners with dip-spin corrosion coatings. The application process allows paint to become trapped inside the recessed drive on the head of the fastener, forcing manufacturers to sort their product and drive costs up. Fasteners with the ClearDrive™ Recess incorporate flutes into the head for drainage. They do not result in recess fill and correspondingly, are higher in quality and lower in cost.

“Historically, we’ve seen recess fill rates in the 4-5 percent range, however they can be as high as 20 percent,” said Seina Savoji, General Manager, ITW Shakeproof. “Our ClearDrive™ Recess has eliminated the problem and will provide innovation within the coating industry to allow for further cost savings for our customers.”

ITW has the ClearDrive™ Recess fastener processed by Curtis Metal Finishing, www.curtismet.com using coating systems supplied by The Magni Group, www.themagnigroup.com. GM and Chrysler have both incorporated the ClearDrive™ Recess on production fasteners.

Available now, ITW’s ClearDrive™ Recess can be manufactured with several head designs: Pan, Round Washer and Oval Countersunk. More information can be found online at www.itwshakeproof.com.

About ITW Shakeproof

ITW Shakeproof is a division of Illinois Tool Works, Inc. (NYSE: ITW), a diversified manufacturer of highly engineered components and industrial systems with \$16 Billion in revenues (www.itw.com). The company consists of approximately 875 decentralized operations

in 54 countries and employs some 61,000 people.

ITW Shakeproof was formed in 1923 upon the invention of the Shakeproof twisted tooth lockwasher. Over the last 86 years, Shakeproof inventions have become industry standards such as KEPS Nuts and SEMS screws. ITW Shakeproof currently offers internally and externally threaded metal fasteners across a broad size range.