FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IAPD Honors Howard Natal of Atlas Fibre Company with the 2013 Paul Davis Award of Merit

OVERLAND PARK, Kans. — The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD), the international trade association comprised of companies engaged in the distribution and manufacture of plastic stock shapes and pipe, valves and fittings, has named Howard Natal as its 2013 Paul Davis Award of Merit recipient.

On behalf of IAPD and the plastics distribution industry, Natal received the prestigious Paul Davis Award of Merit for 2013 at IAPD's Annual Convention in Miami. Presented by Chip Whitfield of Piedmont Plastics, the 2012 Paul Davis Award of Merit recipient, Natal was honored for his many years of outstanding personal and professional contributions to the association and the plastics industry.

Through his leadership and support of the association, Natal has made immeasurable contributions to IAPD. He is a Past President of the Board of Directors and currently serves on the Convention and Expo Committee, Editorial Committee and Scholarship Committee. He has also served on the ASI Board of Trustees, Change Committee, Nominating Committee and EPDA Board of Directors.

"Howard is more than his volunteering. He is someone who epitomizes passion for IAPD and the industry," said IAPD CEO Susan E. Avery, CAE. " He is one of IAPD's most proliferate cheerleaders for engagement, volunteerism, building membership, strengthening our relationship with our European colleagues in EPDA, raising funds for the IAPD Charitable Foundation scholarship program, promoting the IAPD Expo, supporting The IAPD Magazine and building and maintaining relationships and friendships in IAPD. Even after serving his time on the Board and Executive Committee, he continues to serve on committees and continues with extreme passion in supporting IAPD and the industry in just about every way possible. With one phone call, Howard will jump on a plane to do a site visit, attend a meeting or serve in any capacity needed for IAPD."

Natal is vice president of Atlas Fibre Company based in Skokie, Illinois. He joined the company in 1999. Prior to that, he was General Manager at Kenwal Steel Company in Gary, Indiana.

About Paul Davis

Paul Davis of Plastics Manufacturing and Supply Corporation in Cleveland, Ohio, USA, recognized how difficult it was for a small independent plastics distributor to compete with a much larger distributor,
and he longed for the same buying power that a multi-branch distributor enjoyed. In the summer of 1956, he began calling other small distributors to see if the owners were interested in teaming up to become a larger voice in the trade. Davis recruited six individuals, representing four plastics distributors at that first meeting. This small group launched what was initially named the United Plastics Warehouse Corporation and today is known as the International Association of Plastics Distribution. In 1986, IAPD created the Paul Davis Award of Merit to recognize members who have performed exceptional, extraordinary or outstanding service on behalf of the association and the plastics distribution industry and bestowed Paul Davis as the first recipient of this most esteemed award.

About IAPD

The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD), established in 1956, brings together distributors, fabricators, manufacturers, manufacturers’ representatives, recyclers and service providers in an environment which encourages a free flow of ideas and information that help members build their businesses. Every program and service we provide is designed with the simple goal of helping our members increase profitability. Membership in IAPD is an affordable business investment. IAPD provides training, connections with customers and suppliers and information about developments that impact the industry. What makes IAPD unique is a commitment to educating customers and other key end-users about plastics. In other words, IAPD works with members to build the demand for plastics. Central to this effort is the reinforcement of the value of distribution. For more information, visit www.iapd.org.

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