



For Immediate Release

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Industry Veteran Randy St. John Passes Away

Smyrna, Tenn., July 24, 2008 – Automotive aftermarket pioneer Randy St. John, former president of Beck/Arnley and founder of Auto International Association (AIA), passed away on July 20. He was 81.

“We are deeply saddened by the passing of Beck/Arnley’s former leader, Randy St. John,” said Max Dull, vice president and general manager of Beck/Arnley. “Randy built Beck/Arnley from the ground up through hard work and tireless dedication. He was a true gentleman who rose to success while serving our industry as an advocate and mentor. He will be dearly missed by a host of friends at Beck/Arnley and throughout the aftermarket.”

Randy retired as president and CEO of Beck/Arnley Worldparts in 1997, after a long and distinguished career in the automotive aftermarket. He began his career in the early 1950’s as a partner in Brigham-St. John, an import parts specialist located in southern California. In the early 1960s, St. John joined his company with Beck Distributing to become its West Coast operation, Beck/Arnley of California. In 1984, Beck/Arnley was acquired by GKN and shortly thereafter, St. John was named president of the newly formed GKN-AIP, which was a combination of Worldparts and Beck/Arnley. While running the company’s entire import aftermarket division, Beck/Arnley was sold to Echlin and St. John continued to serve as president of the organization. Throughout St. John’s tenure at the Nashville headquarters, he completed four highly successful acquisitions and grew Beck/Arnley to be the largest supplier of foreign nameplate parts.

St. John is survived by his wife, Becky Barton St. John; Becky’s family: parents, Claude and Barbara Barton; sisters, Kathy (Mike) Mitchell and Nancy King; nephews, Dean Mitchell and Wyatt King; nieces, Rebecca Mitchell and Anna Mitchell; stepchildren, Danielle (Tom) Ottenstein and Todd (Christa) Nuber and step grandchildren, Lauren Wooten, Kelley Ottenstein and Natalie Nuber.

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 26 at Brentwood United Methodist Church, 309 Franklin Road, Brentwood, Tenn. Visitation will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will continue at 11:00 a.m. following the service. Donations in St. John’s memory may be made to Alive Hospice, 1718 Patterson Street, Nashville, Tenn. 37203-9658; or The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, 404 BNA Drive, Suite 102, Nashville, Tenn. 37217-2571.

About Beck/Arnley:

Beck/Arnley is exclusively dedicated to supporting its distribution partners who service the foreign nameplate repair market. Founded in 1914, Beck/Arnley’s broad product offering is organized into six modules: Brake & Chassis, Electrical, Clutch & Driveline, Engine Management, Engine Parts & Filtration, and Cooling Systems. Headquartered near Nashville, Tennessee, Beck/Arnley distributes parts to resellers through its MDC in Smyrna, Tennessee and strategically located satellite customer care centers. For more information, visit www.beckarnley.com.