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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NO SKIDDING! ... FRP IMPROVES TRAY ERGONOMICS

- MFG TRAY CO.'S FRP TRAY DESIGN PROVIDES LIGHTER WEIGHT, NON-SKID SOLUTION TO OPTIMIZE SERVER PERFORMANCE -

Linesville, PA (December 2007) - In an effort to facilitate improved ergonomics and server performance, Molded Fiber Glass Tray Company (MFG Tray Co.) has introduced a series of light weight, high-strength fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP) composite trays for the hospitality industry. In addition to providing less strain on a server's workload, the tray's proprietary non-skid coating provides a functional surface with up to 150% improvement in non-skid (even when wet) performance— resulting in fewer broken dishes due to sliding.

FRP CHALLENGE/FORMING PROCESS:

The goal of MFG Tray Co.'s in-house R&D department was to use advanced composite production methods to produce a simple ergonomic difference that would lessen the risk of injury and potential risk associated with heavy tray lifting. In addition to creating a lighter weight tray, the design called for a coating which would result in non-peeling of the planar carrying surface to provide longer life under heavy dishwashing cycles. The coating also would increase resistance to stains and odors.

Production involves a molding process using matched metal steel compression and sheet molding compound (SMC) materials. Three tray sizes (14"/16" round and 27" oval) were designed by MFG Tray which easily inter-stack with other trays on the market. Additionally, the In-Mold Coating (IMC) process chemically bonds the proprietary soft-touch mold coating to the trays. The coating process allows MFG Tray



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to provide a 5 year warranty against bubbles and peeling of the surface. Finally, the new Non-Skid tray will be sold at price competitive with other trays on the market; but with improved performance.

FRP TRAY STAIN RESISTANCE TESTING:

To ensure desired performance results, notably durability under intense commercial use, an outside lab was enlisted to perform stain resistance tests that would meet/exceed National Electrical Manufacturers Association’s (NEMA) High Pressure Decorative Laminates standards.

STAIN RESISTANCE TESTING RESULTS:

Non-Skid Tray Competitive Performance Evaluation				
24 Hours / Performance Rating: 0 = No Stain 5 = Severe Stain				
Standard		Market Control Tray		
		Rubber Laminate	Rubber Laminate	
Stain Test	Standard	(Brown)	(Black)	MFG Tray
Ketchup	NEMA LD-3	5	5	1
Mustard	NEMA LD-3	5	5	1
Italian Dressing	NEMA LD-3	5	5	1
Cola	NEMA LD-3	1	2	0
Hot Tea	NEMA LD-3	0	2	1
Hot Coffee	NEMA LD-3	1	1	1
Red Wine	NEMA LD-3	5	1	0
Pen	NEMA LD-3	3	2	1
Vinegar	NEMA LD-3	5	2	0
Oil	NEMA LD-3	5	3	0
Lemon Juice	NEMA LD-3	0	0	0
Nail Polish Remover	NEMA LD-3	2	2	0
Ammonia	NEMA LD-3	0	0	1
		37	30	7



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APPLICATION / CONCLUSION:

Presque Isle Downs Casino (Erie, PA), a recently opened state-of-the-art slot, simulcast racing and wagering entertainment Mecca, adopted the new non-skid FRP trays for its entire casino service areas—casino gaming floor, three upscale dining areas and four lounges.

Presque Isle Beverage Director Paul Twidle was looking for an alternative to cork-surface trays which servers had complained were heavy as they absorbed moisture and the glasses also “walked” on them as a result. Having researched and tested a number of trays on the market, Twidle resoundingly chose the Non-Skid tray stating, “With the heavy casino traffic, the servers needed lighter trays with a surer surface. Usually you can’t get both of these qualities in a tray but the new Non-Skid tray’s were big enough and light enough; plus the gum-top design prevented slippage. Our servers love them as most can carry up to twenty drinks at a time without a problem.”

CORPORATE PROFILE: Established in 1949, Molded Fiber Glass Tray Company (MFG Tray Co.) manufactures reinforced composite trays, containers, and flats used in the confectionery, bakery, food service, pharmaceutical, and electronics industries amongst others for in-process handling of goods. MFG Tray Co. pioneers practical composite innovations in a variety of applications such as chemical resistance, autoclave or gamma radiation sterilization, degreaser resistance, flame retardant, ergonomic and ESD protection.

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