



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Honolulu Selects Ricochet™ Hi-Viz Vantage Light for EMS Protective Gear

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, JUNE 10, 2008 — Ricochet™ Manufacturing, Inc., is pleased to announce delivery of more than 1,000 Vantage Light EMS jackets to the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). Selected after a two-year evaluation and field-test process, Ricochet™ delivered a new high-visibility version of its Vantage Light Series jacket for use in the temperate climates of the island. Ricochet worked closely with HFD during the evaluation process to ensure that the emergency response team would be comfortable yet fully protected against body fluids and common chemicals often found at accident scenes.

Certified to be compliant with NFPA 1999, 2003 Edition, Ricochet's Vantage Light Series is extremely lightweight and is the most breathable EMS ensemble on the market today. This ensemble is available with a variety of options to ensure that the product meets the needs of every user, regardless of the environment. For example, a detachable snap-on hood and reflective lettering can be added to the product, and zip-in liners are also available for cool weather. The high-visibility option, which meets the ANSI 107 requirement for visibility, improves safety for the EMT responding to vehicular accidents.

The Vantage Light EMS Gear is made of a breathable CROSSTECH® EMS Fabric shell with a lightweight mesh liner. According to Peter Askey, president of Ricochet, the CROSSTECH® Fabric provides the best combination of durability, protection, and comfort. This fabric is highly moisture vapor-permeable, but provides excellent protection against liquids and blood-borne pathogens. W. L. Gore & Associates' proprietary expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (ePTFE) membrane incorporated in the CROSSTECH® fabric enables it to prevent penetration of dangerous liquids often encountered at accident scenes but at the same time allows perspiration and vapor to escape from the ensemble, thereby eliminating heat build-up and increasing comfort. To ensure maximum protection against leakage, Ricochet uses GORE-SEAM™ Tape to seal all seams, which seals even the smallest holes created by sewing needles.

Askey concludes, “We are proud to have been selected for use by the Honolulu Fire Department, and we consider this a reflection on our commitment to a quality product. We chose CROSSTECH® EMS Fabric for our entire product line because it is the best performing product and because Gore has an outstanding reputation in the industry. Specifically, the Vantage Light garment uses a unique two-layer, hi-viz CROSSTECH® EMS Fabric as the outer shell that makes it the most breathable, yet compliant, garment in the marketplace.”

RICOCHET™ MANUFACTURING: For more than 20 years, Ricochet™ Manufacturing, Inc., has specialized in designing the ultimate in protective EMS and technical rescue clothing. Drawing on its extensive experience in developing sophisticated high-tech military gear, Ricochet™ manufactures lightweight, non-restrictive protective clothing using the highest quality materials for maximum comfort and safety. Ricochet™ Manufacturing is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and produces all of its products in the United States. For more information about Ricochet’s complete line of EMS and technical rescue clothing, call 888.462.1999 or visit www.ricochet-gear.com.

W. L. GORE & ASSOCIATES: With more than \$2 billion in sales and 8,000 employees worldwide, W. L. Gore & Associates specializes in fluoropolymer innovations that improve the quality of life. Gore has applied its world-renowned expertise to thousands of high-performance solutions in pharmaceutical, consumer, industrial, electronic, medical, and surgical markets. Specifically in the protective fabrics arena, Gore has been a pioneer in developing high-performance barrier products for use in firefighting, EMS, technical rescue, law enforcement, military, and domestic preparedness applications. The company operates more than 45 facilities worldwide with headquarters in Newark, Delaware, USA. For more information about CROSSTECH® EMS Fabric, call 800.431.GORE or 410.392.3600, or visit www.crosstech.com.

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