



PRESS RELEASE



Melissa Shearer,
Kirk Neiswander, Pres. EDGE,
and Bob Shearer

SHEARER'S FOODS

Named a Winner of the

LEADING EDGE AWARD AND SHATTEN CIVIC DISTINCTION AWARD

Brewster, Ohio: Shearer's Foods was honored at the second celebration of the Leading EDGE Awards on May 21, 2008 at the Lorain County Community College. Further, Shearer's received the Richard Shatten Civic Distinction Award, which is presented each year to an exceptional company that goes well beyond the norm in giving back and supporting the Northeast Ohio community.

"Richard Shatten's legacy lives on through the Shatten Award and its recipients. I accept the Award on behalf of Shearer's dedicated associates, suppliers and customers, who support our company's philanthropic mission each and every day." said Robert J. Shearer, Chief Executive Officer. "We will continue to honor Mr. Shatten by setting a higher standard for ourselves and for all Northeast Ohio businesses."

The Entrepreneurs EDGE (Economic Development through Growth and Entrepreneurship) is a non-profit organization that is committed to helping middle-market companies in Northeast Ohio grow their value, while building a culture that is supportive of entrepreneurial ventures. EDGE companies have an annual revenue of less than \$500 million and are based within a 17-county region. The Leading EDGE Award measures, tracks and recognizes companies that are creating the most value for themselves as well as for the community. It establishes meaningful benchmarks to give a more thorough indication of our regional economic health.

The event was sponsored by MAGNET and Glenmede, and co-sponsored by The Fred A. Lennon Charitable Trust, the Harvard Business School Foundation and Crain's Cleveland Business. Additionally, this initiative is being back by nine universities and many economic development and business support organizations.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shearer's Foods, Inc.
692 North Wabash
Brewster, OH 44613

Melissa M. Shearer
Vice President
Communications

melssashearer
@shearers.com
330-767-7160
330-767-3393 (Fax)

For information on
Shearer's
Award-Winning
Products or Services,
Please Contact the
Customer Service
Department at
1-888-GREAT-CHIPS
(toll free) or

Shearer's Foods, Inc., founded in 1974, is the manufacturer /distributor of Shearer's Award-Winning Snacks. Varied products include a complete line of potato chips, tortilla chips, pretzels, cheese curls/puffs, peanuts, popcorn, corn chips and other snacks. While Shearer's is recognized as a leader in the snack food industry, they consistently achieve "excellence" in everything they do! **Real Simple** magazine ranked Shearer's the "Best Chips with a Beer" and **Newsweek** magazine commented their potato chips were "...crisply addictive." The company has been named "**Snack Manufacturer of the Year**" by **Snack Food and Wholesale Bakery** magazine. Shearer's has been awarded the **Weatherhead 100**, **Cascade Capital Business Growth Award** and **The Entrepreneurs EDGE Award** for being one of the fastest growing companies in Northeast Ohio. The Weatherhead School of Management has also recognized Shearer's as one of its **Family Firms of Distinction**. Shearer's potato chips received the **Gold Medal Award** from the American Tasting Institute of San Francisco for the best potato chips in America. Shearer's has been honored with the **SCOPE Award as Business of the Year** in Stark County, Ohio. The company has been recognized for manufacturing excellence by winning the **Manny Award** and the **Evolution of Manufacturing Award**. Shearer's has been awarded the **North Coast 99** nine consecutive years as a top employer in Northeast Ohio. **Inside Business** magazine has honored Shearer's as one of the top performing companies in Northeast Ohio ten times with the **NEO Success Award**. Shearer's Snacks are distributed throughout the Midwest, New England states and parts of Canada.