



PRESS RELEASE

SHEARER'S FOODS Wins the Crain's Leading EDGE Award for the Third Year



*(L-R) Brian Tucker, Editor, Crain's Cleveland Business,
Melissa Shearer, Bob Shearer and Kirk Neiswander,
President, The Entrepreneurs EDGE*

Brewster, Ohio: Shearer's Foods was awarded the Crain's Leading EDGE Award for the third year. The Leading EDGE Awards honored 95 companies that collectively pumped \$1.6 billion into the Northeast Ohio economy last year, as measured through their combined earnings and compensation to local employees. The impact is up from \$1.375 billion last year and \$1.1 billion in 2006. Eighty-three of this year's honorees created more than 1,800 net new jobs over the past two years.

As recipients of the 2008 Richard Shatten Civic Distinction Award, Bob and Melissa Shearer presented the 2009 award to Main Street Gourmet of Cuyahoga Falls. Mr. Steve Marks and Mr. Harvey Nelson accepted the award on behalf of their company. The Shatten Award is presented each year to an exceptional company that goes well beyond the norm in giving back and supporting the Northeast Ohio community in memory of Mr. Shatten. This year's award was sponsored by Shearer's Foods and Fairmount Minerals, the 2007 Shatten Award winner.



*(L-R) Melissa Shearer, Bob Shearer,
Steve Marks and Harvey Nelson*

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 held at Kent State University on May 20, 2009. It was sponsored by Crain's Cleveland Business, Glenmede Investment and Wealth Management, Kent State University, Lorain County Community College and Meaden & Moore.

**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

May 21, 2009

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

**Melissa M. Shearer
Vice President
Communications**

**melissashearer
@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
www.shearers.com**

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 as Business of the Year by the Canton and Massillon Chambers of Commerce. 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 ten 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 eleven times with the NEO Success Award. Shearer's Snacks are distributed throughout the Midwest, New England states and parts of Canada.