

***For Immediate Release*****Date: Fall 2006****CP Show Contacts:**

Randy Reinke      612-386-3443  
Jim Cottington    612-695-9599  
Harley Davenport   612-805-9140

**CP Office Contacts:**

Dennis Witthus      320-693-4817  
Jim Schmitt          320-693-4870

**CUSTOM PRODUCTS ZERO DEGREE TESTING LAB HEATS UP**

(Custom Products, Litchfield MN) Custom Products of Litchfield, Inc. recently completed construction of a state of the art, Zero Degree OPS (Operator Protective Structure) Test Facility. Their new facility will accommodate vehicles as large as 300,000 GVW with capabilities to apply horizontal forces up to 200,000 pounds and vertical forces up to 600,000 pounds.

Features of this new facility include three-46,000 BTU cooling compressors, high pressure hydraulic pump station, roof drop hatch for FOPS (Falling Object Protective Structure) testing, computerized instrumentation for plotting load and deflection information, 18 ft vertically lifted door, 5 ton overhead bridge crane and a 34 foot observation deck.

The 1500 square foot building was erected for servicing off-highway equipment manufacturers in the agriculture, construction, sport utility, mining, forestry, and turf care industries. Various protective structures used on off-highway equipment can be tested to ANSI, ASABE, BS, CEN, ISO, MSHA, OECD, OSHA, SAE and various company specific proprietary standards.

"This structure complements Custom Products dedication to providing design, manufacturing and testing of some of the most relied on operator protective structures in the various industries we serve," reports Jim Schmitt, Director of Engineering and Regulatory Compliance for Custom Products, "We custom design and test off-highway OPS in a variety of sizes and shapes for a diverse range of industries, from 800 pound ride-on lawnmowers to 300,000 pound trenchers. We also perform contract testing for companies who manufacture their own products."

Custom Products of Litchfield has been performing zero degree load-deflection testing on OPS since 1972. They are self certified in more than 600 ROPS and OSHA standards tests.



Photo of Custom Products' zero degree test lab with a cab enclosure during ROPS certification tests.



Photo of Custom Products' zero degree test lab equipment.