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CONTACT:

Barb Mackintosh  
RKS  
805 370-1200 Phone  
805 370-1201 Fax  
[barb@rksdesign.com](mailto:barb@rksdesign.com)  
[www.rksdesign.com](http://www.rksdesign.com)

**GREEN FROM THE INSIDE OUT:  
INNOVATIVE NEW TOOL IN FIGHT TO SAVE AMERICA'S FORESTS**

Los Angeles, California, April 8, 2008 – Forests in Colorado are under attack by a rampant infestation of bark beetles that threatens total devastation within five years if not arrested. Two Southern California companies have combined efforts to develop an innovative tool designed to help save America's precious national resources.

Originally concentrated in five Colorado counties, the strands of red, distressed trees that mark the infestation's course are now spreading into Wyoming. According to [U.S. Forest Service officials](#), the resulting dead and dying trees are sure to increase the danger of deadly wildfires.

Faced with massive attacks like the current bark beetle infestation, world leader in tree micro-injection Mauget enlisted RKS, a top industrial design firm, to develop a faster, safer, more effective delivery system. Since 1958, Mauget has pioneered micro-injection systems for trees that work much like IV delivery of drugs and supplements for humans. By injecting directly into the tree's circulatory system, the tree gets more benefit from the treatments and there is less danger of toxic run-off contaminating the watershed. Though Mauget's methods have saved countless trees over the last half-century, existing micro-injection systems are far too slow, limiting the number of trees one arborist can treat.

Working closely with Mauget's scientists, RKS designed the Mauget "Forest Saver" QI-20 – the first closed-system for active-delivery tree-injection. This innovative technology safely and quickly delivers tree-saving chemicals at optimal pressure. In the past, one arborist might have been able to doctor five to ten trees in an hour. With the Mauget Forest Saver, the same arborist is transformed from tree-watcher to Forest-Saving Super Hero able to treat nearly a hundred trees in the same amount of time.

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Set for introduction in Spring 2008, the Forest Saver is a powerful part of a program needed to stop the devastation caused by bark beetles and avert catastrophe. To read more about the Mauget “Forest Saver” QI-20, download the full story at [http://rksdesign.com/pdf/RKS\\_CaseStudy\\_Mauget.pdf](http://rksdesign.com/pdf/RKS_CaseStudy_Mauget.pdf).

For fifty years, Mauget has provided products that restore, maintain, and enhance tree health, while preserving the integrity of the environment by providing the most innovative and effective products and application methods. The family-run Mauget, is based near Los Angeles in Arcadia, CA. Learn more about Mauget’s history and products at [www.mauget.com](http://www.mauget.com).

RKS is an Industrial Design consultancy offering a full range of strategy, innovation, and design services. Consistently ranked in Business Week’s Top 10 Industrial Design firms, RKS has a 27-year legacy of transforming client inspirations and aspirations into powerful business results. The Southern California-based firm specializes in market segments that include medical / dental, consumer electronics, sporting goods, housewares, consumer products, and industrial goods. Its clients include Apple, JBL, Nokia, HP, Intel, Zyliss, Panavision, Medtronic, and many others. RKS has won more than 50 product design awards globally, and has been issued more than 150 patents.

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