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News Release



For immediate release

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Pentair Unit to Supply Home Depot with Full Line of ExCell Pressure Washers

ST. PAUL, MN – April 19, 2001 – Pentair (NYSE: PNR) announced today that its DeVilbiss Air Power Company has reached an agreement with Home Depot, Inc. to supply the home improvement merchandiser with its entire line of ExCell pressure washers and accessories. Pentair said this represents the largest pressure washer award ever received by the company.

“This relationship with Home Depot illustrates the confidence that one of the nation’s most demanding retailers has in the quality of the ExCell product line and the excellent delivery system from our Decatur, Arkansas manufacturing plant to Home Depot stores throughout North America,” said Frank J. Feraco, president and chief operating officer, Pentair Tools. “The pressure washers are yet another Pentair product line that is featured in Home Depot, which also carries a wide range of our Porter-Cable power tools and Delta woodworking machinery.”

Feraco pointed out that pressure washers, long a staple product in the commercial market, have become increasingly popular with do-it-yourselfers, largely due to the marketing efforts of merchandisers like Home Depot. Pentair’s ExCell line is being showcased in Home Depot’s catalogues and featured on 16-foot displays in stores.

The ExCell pressure washer line sold through Home Depot includes units designed for residential and commercial use, and can generate from 2300 pounds per square inch up to 3500 pounds per square inch, depending on the model. The washers are used for paint preparation; cleaning of home exteriors, decks, and vehicles; and a wide variety of other commercial and consumer applications.

Pentair (www.pentair.com) is a St. Paul-based manufacturer whose core businesses compete in the tools, water technologies, and enclosures markets. The company employs 13,000 people in more than 50 locations around the world.