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## PRESS RELEASE



## StarNet/CARE Reclamation Program Recognizes Pfizer, Inc. at New York World Headquarters

## Ridgefield, CT: Tuesday, Mar 7th, 2006

StarNet® Commercial Flooring Cooperative, the largest member-owned cooperative of independent, commercial floor covering contractors in North America, recognized the carpet reclamation efforts of Pfizer New York World Headquarters, New York, New York. Partnering with Consolidated Carpet, a StarNet® member firm, Pfizer diverted 282,789 square feet or 144,945 pounds of carpeting from landfills in 2005 through the StarNet/CARE (Carpet American Recovery Effort) Reclamation Program.

Lori Dowling, president and CEO of StarNet®, said, "Our Board and members see enormous value in this initiative, which is right on target with our growing commitment to environmental issues. As the leading group of independent flooring contractors, StarNet® members are truly unique in their combination of capabilities, with expertise on technical and practical fronts. As a result, the Reclamation Program is enjoying tremendous success so far, as seen by Pfizer's efforts via Consolidated Carpet. We look forward to reporting more results throughout 2006."

"As a Pfizer colleague we have a mandate to be responsible, good citizens to the community and to lead in worthy directions with integrity," adds Mal Schuster, senior project engineer, Pfizer New York World Headquarters. "Our efforts in support of the environment reflect this commitment, from our reclamation initiatives to our annual Spring Recycling Event." For more information on Pfizer, Inc., please visit <u>www.pfizer.com</u>.

The StarNet/CARE Carpet Reclamation Program offers a compliant, cost-competitive and hassle-free solution to dealing with the complexities of a carpet reclamation project. By offering a one-stop reclamation service, StarNet® members can handle all the issues and details associated with the job. StarNet® will reclaim any used carpet, from any mill, made from any material, installed at any date and anywhere in North America. All fiber types and backing systems are eligible, including carpet tile. StarNet® will remove the old carpet professionally, arrange transportation to a dedicated reclamation center, provide assurance that the material did not go into a landfill, document the procedure and submit records for compliance. From the reclamation center, used carpet may be used to produce new carpet, energy, automotive parts or building materials, to name a few reuse options.

"This is what leadership and teamwork are all about," said Dr. Robert Peoples, executive director of CARE. "Three years ago Pfizer paid a premium to reclaim their old carpet. Today they can do it at a cost more closely approaching typical removal to landfill. Most companies would be content to stop there, but Pfizer is encouraging other firms to become engaged and environmentally focused." For more information on CARE, please visit <u>www.carpetrecovery.org</u>.

Consolidated Carpet facilitated the reclamation process for Pfizer by coordinating the carpet removal process with the many contractors and demolition companies working on site. As a result,

Pfizer did not have to dedicate personnel or resources to see that carpet removal was accomplished as scheduled and that the old carpet did not end up in a landfill. Consolidated Carpet arranged for the carpet to be removed to the certified carpet recycler on most projects. On other projects, carpet was collected at Consolidated Carpet's own warehouse and reclaimed from there.

Paul Meberg of StarNet® member firm, Consolidated Carpet, said, "Three years ago Pfizer made a corporate decision to recycle as much material as possible, as they renovated areas for new construction. The main focus of this commitment has been reclamation of carpet products and ceiling tile. Consolidated Carpet is gratified to partner with Pfizer in its trendsetting commitment to our environment." Consolidated Carpet has been a pioneer in marketing carpet reclamation services throughout its marketplace. For more information on Consolidated, please see <u>www.consolidatedcarpet.com</u>.

Early in 1992, independent commercial flooring dealers recognized their resources could be strengthened through a national network combining their individual capabilities. This basic concept grew into the StarNet® Commercial Flooring Cooperative which, with more than 148 independent contractors doing business in 230 of the top markets across North America, is the most professional, service-driven, commercial floor covering entity in existence today. Working closely with the leading floor covering manufacturers, StarNet® has been able to reduce the costs related to doing business and create a combined annual volume of well over one billion dollars. Please visit www.starnetflooring.com to find a StarNet® member who can serve your carpet reclamation needs.