

MEDIA ALERT:

CLOUD GATE AT MILLENNIUM PARK WINS COVETED EXTRAORDINARY WELDING AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN WELDING

*****Awards Ceremony at Millennium Park to Take Place During Week of Fabtech Int. and AWS Welding Show*****

WHAT: **CHICAGO, IL, November 8, 2007** – During the week of the 2007 FABTECH International & AWS Welding Show in Chicago, the American Welding Society (AWS) will present Millennium Park's monumental Cloud Gate sculpture with the Outstanding Achievement in Welding Award, one of the most distinguished welding industry awards. The award is a part of AWS' Extraordinary Welding Awards program, which annually honors one welded structure that depicts exceptional design and technological achievements through welding.

WHO: **Cloud Gate, Millennium Park**

Millennium Park representatives will be presented with the Extraordinary Welding Award at a special ceremony to be held at Millennium Park during the week of the 2007 FABTECH International & AWS Welding Show at nearby McCormick Place, where one thousand fabrication and welding companies will be exhibiting and over 25,000 attendees are expected. Hosting the ceremony will be Chicago local and AWS Past President Jim Greer, Professor and Professional Welding Consultant at Techno-Welding Consultants, based in New Lenox, IL.

In addition, the following individuals and companies are named on the award for their contributions to the development of Cloud Gate: Anish Kapoor, Artist; Chris Hornzee-Jones, Structural Engineer; Performance Structures Inc., Design, Engineering and Fabrication; MTH Industries, Fabrication; U.S. Equities Realty, Development Manager; Millennium Park Inc. & AT&T, Donors; Richard M. Daley, Mayor; City of Chicago, Owner.

WHY: Inspired by liquid mercury, the sculpture is among the largest of its kind in the world, weighing about 110 tons and measuring 66-feet long by 33-feet high by 42-feet wide. The 110-ton elliptical sculpture is forged of a seamless series of highly polished stainless steel plates, which reflect the city's famous skyline and the clouds above. A 12-foot-high arch provides a "gate" to the concave chamber beneath the sculpture, inviting visitors to touch its mirror-like surface and see their image reflected back from a variety of perspectives. The sculpture is British artist Anish Kapoor's first public outdoor work installed in the United States.

Cloud Gate will join the ranks of other prestigious structures from across the globe that received the award, including the Georgia Aquarium, Tokyo Tower, External Tanks - NASA Space Shuttles, USS Harry S. Truman, Mr. Charlie drilling barge and USS Alabama.

WHERE: **Millennium Park in Chicago**
Jay Pritzker Pavilion - Choral Rehearsal Room
Welcome Center - 201 E. Randolph Street in the Northwest Exelon Pavilion

WHEN: **Monday, Nov. 12, at 3 p.m.**
****On Sunday, November 11, the 2007 FABTECH International & AWS Welding Show will open at nearby McCormick Place. The four-day exposition and conference is expected to bring in an estimated 25,000 attendees and 1,000 exhibitors covering 475,000 square feet of exhibit space.*

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ABOUT THE FABTECH INTERNATIONAL & AWS WELDING SHOW:

The FABTECH International & AWS Welding Show is the largest event in North America dedicated to showcasing a full spectrum of metal forming, fabricating, stamping, tube & pipe, and welding equipment and technology. Cosponsored by the American Welding Society (AWS), Fabricators & Manufacturers Association Int'l (FMA) and Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) and supported by industry partner the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the event is expected to bring in an estimated 25,000 attendees and 1,000 exhibitors covering 475,000 square feet of exhibit space.

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