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## PRESS RELEASE

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### Revolutionary AnyFuel™ Cordless Technology Is Truly “Disruptive”

Cleveland, Ohio -- The state-of-the-art AnyFuel™ power technology being used in Superior Tool Company's new UltraCut™ cordless power tubing cutter promises to have many additional applications in consumer and commercial products, particularly in those where providing surges of power (as in can openers and punches) are critical. By combining nano-technology-based ultracapacitors with various battery styles, this new technology will help create practical cordless products that have been manual or corded in the past.

The UltraCut is “a product that does for the job of cutting copper tubing what the power drill did for the bit and brace” according to Superior COO Chuck Mintz. “The UltraCut reinvents the category, and AnyFuel is the reason.” The technology was developed at Superior with the support of Maxwell Technologies of San Diego and Tecate Group of Poway, California.

The old-style tubing cutter has been the standard for three generations. Although it works, it makes tube cutting a tedious project. The new UltraCut product changes all that. It automatically cuts ½” or ¾” copper tubing with minimal burr in three seconds. That means the last cut is as powerful and fast as the first cut.

“The ability to provide high power bursts on demand in a cordless tool or appliance was impractical before,” says Mintz. “We needed a high current burst -- up front -- to cut copper tubing, and batteries alone did not meet our specifications.” AnyFuel delivered what we needed and more. This version of the UltraCut uses NiMh (nickel-metal hydride) cells based on their improved performance over more common NiCd (nickel-cadmium) cells. AnyFuel reduces the number and size of battery cells required. Not only are we able to increase the number of cuts per charge, but AnyFuel extends battery cell life, as well.”

### **New Technology Will Have Many Applications**

Current applications of ultracapacitors include supplementing batteries in electric vehicles to allow quick transfers of energy at critical times (like slamming on the brakes). Superior and Tecate Industries plan to license the AnyFuel power technology to manufacturers in many industries, including those marketing through the hardware/home center, plumbing, and housewares marketplaces.

“Although it is too early to recommend specific applications at this point, any device that requires strong initial power but does not need the cost, bulk and weight of a large battery pack is a potential candidate for AnyFuel,” says Mintz. Can openers, coffee mills, punches, and crimpers, for example, come to mind as obvious candidates.”

“The new technology allows the creation of battery-powered tools and small appliances where in the past it was only practical for them to be manual or plugged into the wall. It does it by allowing more choices of battery type and by reducing the demand on the battery, allowing for smaller and less costly batteries,” explains Mintz. “It’s a little like making your car able to run on any fuel and at the same time allowing it to get better mileage from the fuels it uses and allowing it to use a smaller gas tank.”

The use of AnyFuel in products like the UltraCut provides a number of important benefits, including:

- More speed.
- More consistent power (speed) through the life of the charge. That means the last cut is just as powerful and fast as the first cut.
- More run time, 36% more cuts per battery charge.
- Cleaner cuts (in an application like UltraCut) due to more consistent smooth speed of the cutter wheel.
- Extended battery cell life.
- Fewer and smaller battery cells, thus, less weight

### **A Strong Partnership**

San Diego-based Maxwell Technologies is a leading developer and manufacturer of innovative, cost-effective energy storage and power delivery solutions.

Tecate Industries, a division of the Tecate Group headquarters in Poway, California, works closely with Maxwell in terms of developing and marketing ultracapacitor solutions for commercial applications

“The partnership has worked right from the beginning,” says Maxwell Director, Bobby Maher. We are very excited about this product and the prospect of applying the technology to other consumer and industrial products.”

Superior Tool is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The company has been a manufacturer and distributor of professional-quality plumbing hand tools since 1947, and played a pivotal role in creating the professional plumbing supply category at retail. Superior prides itself on its history of innovation combined with their reputation as a source of solid, serious products for the professional and the D-I-Yer.

The innovative and award-winning **DrainStick**<sup>™</sup> drain cleaning tool, the award-winning Bayonet<sup>™</sup> brand threadless tubular pipe system, the SinkDrainWrench<sup>™</sup> and the SuperWrench<sup>™</sup> quick-gripping pipe wrench are all recent breakthroughs developed at the company. Superior products are marketed through Lowe’s, Menard’s, Home Depot, Ace Hardware, Sears, True Value, Orgill, and other important retailers and distributors under both the Superior and Stanley brand names.

Mintz is a 25-year Reliance Electric operations and technical specialist who joined Superior in 1995. The CEO is Howard Garfinkel, a longtime player in the hardware/home center business and 20-year veteran of Superior.

For more information about Superior, go to the [www.superiortool.com](http://www.superiortool.com) and check out Superior Tool's fun and informative website.

Maxwell is leading developer and manufacturer of innovative, cost-effective energy storage and power delivery solutions. The company's BOOSTCAP® ultracapacitor cells and multi-cell modules and POWERCACHE® backup power systems provide safe and reliable power solutions for applications in consumer and industrial electronics, transportation and telecommunications.

Maxwell's CONDIS® high-voltage grading and coupling capacitors help to ensure the safety and reliability of electric utility infrastructure and other applications involving transport, distribution and measurement of high-voltage electrical energy. Radiation-mitigated microelectronic products include power modules, memory modules and single board computers that incorporate powerful commercial silicon for superior performance and high reliability in aerospace applications.

For more information about Maxwell, please visit their website: [www.maxwell.com](http://www.maxwell.com).