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POPULAR MECHANICS HONORS TOP PRODUCTS AT 2008 NATIONAL HARDWARE SHOW WITH EDITOR'S CHOICE AWARDS

LAS VEGAS (May 6, 2008) – *Popular Mechanics*, one of America's most trusted men's magazines, yesterday announced the winners of its Editor's Choice Awards at the 2008 National Hardware Show, one of the world's largest annual tradeshow for hand and power tools, hardware and innovative products across a variety of categories. Editor-in-Chief James Meigs presented the winners with their awards at a private ceremony at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

"As a premier venue for new tools and other products to debut, the National Hardware Show has long been recognized as an industry hot spot," said Meigs. "It's the ideal forum for *Popular Mechanics* to honor, recognize and report on a variety of great new products, something we've been doing for more than a century."

Popular Mechanics' home improvement team selects the Editor's Choice winners from among the thousands of exhibitors at NHS. This year's 13 winners are:

- **Bosch Rotary Hammer** – Homeowners are familiar with the hammer drill, but there are times when they need something brawnier for really big drilling jobs—the rotary hammer. But these hammers have been too expensive and too heavy for home use. Now Bosch has developed this tool, a 7.4-lb. rotary hammer that costs about \$259—about the cost of a high quality cordless drill. Another breakthrough bonus: It comes equipped with slide-on dust-collection.
- **Chervon/Sears Craftsman Digital Miter Gauge** – A table saw is the center piece of professional and hobbyist woodshops alike. Its use has just been made easier with this product, a miter gauge with a backlit LCD. The gauge holds a workpiece safely at an angle as it's pushed through the blade. The LCD quickly reads out the angle, and a large pivoting handle firmly locks the miter gauge fence in position. Chervon says the gauge is accurate to within 0.1 degree.
- **Klamp Table** – This is a modular work system that allows the homeowner to clamp workpieces securely and quickly. It can be bought as a pair of extruded aluminum rails with pivoting work clamps and attached to an existing work top, or you can buy them in a kit that includes the top. A separate kit, a heavy-duty steel stand, allows you to mount the top on a height-adjustable base.
- **6-N-1 Rescue Tool** – Take a heavy-duty pair of electrician pliers and forge a pry bar, glass-breaking tool and a gas valve shut-off wrench into the handles and you've got the world's most compact rescue kit. It's perfect to hang on a hook next to your home's emergency flashlight. Homeowners in areas that are prone to floods and hurricanes will do well to keep one near their evacuation kit.
- **Big Slider** –The Big Slider, a thick polyethylene plastic sheet with a rope handle, can move loads up to 700 lbs. over rough or smooth surfaces.
- **Rapid Shark** –The Rapid Shark is a serrated blade utility knife, cable shears and wire stripper in one tool that can slip into a back pocket.
- **Zip Sander** – Most sanding blocks are clunky and uncomfortable, but the Zip Sander is just the opposite: Its lightweight foam body is contoured to fit perfectly into your hand. Its centered handle allows you to sand easily into corners without skinning your knuckles; the hook-and-loop base allows you to quickly remove and install abrasive sheets. Added bonus: It floats. Dunk it in a pail of water for wet sanding jobs.
- **Wood Magnet** – This lightweight plastic tool slips over the edge of a piece of construction lumber, allowing the user to level it or use the lumber itself as a level by spanning two points—and thanks to a built-in rubber band, it works vertically, too. Wood Magnet's simple and durable construction will help it withstand job site rigors.

- **Crocodile Circular Saw** – Circular saws are primarily wood cutters that are sometimes pressed into service to cut other materials, but not the Crocodile. It's the first circular saw designed for the variety of materials on today's construction site or home remodeling job: wood, metal, tile, vinyl, even drywall.
- **CT50 Cordless staple gun** – If there's one job that will wear your wrist and hand out, it's pumping the lever on a staple gun to put up insulation or hang ceiling tiles; fortunately the lithium battery-powered CT50 does away with that problem. Just pull its trigger to drive staples into construction lumber. It fires up to 1500 staples on a single battery charge.
- **Gorilla Wood Glue** – Gorilla Wood Glue ensures a quickly-made and long-lasting bond on wood joints whether you use it on fine furniture or something as utilitarian as a cutting board. The adhesive can be used in temperatures as low as 55° F, so it's good for woodworkers whose garages double as a workshop.
- **Cable Check 1594** – Homeowners don't install RJ45 or coaxial cables every day, so this \$40 tool is an inexpensive investment that helps them check whether their work is properly wired before they flip the equipment's On switch. It analyzes the cable itself as well as its connections using a series of flashing lights to indicate the cable's stability and that its connections have been made properly.
- **HotStop** – Replace a standard shower head with the HotStop and not only do you have a comfortable hand shower, you've also got scald protection. A valve inside the device reduces flow to a trickle in less than five seconds if it detects water at or above 117° F. The device installs in minutes with ordinary hand tools.

Popular Mechanics also awards Editor's Choice honors at the International Consumer Electronics Show (CES), the world's largest annual tradeshow for consumer technology and America's largest annual tradeshow of any kind, in January and the SEMA Show, the definitive event for the automotive aftermarket, in November.

About Popular Mechanics

Popular Mechanics (www.popularmechanics.com) is a magazine that helps readers master the modern world. In addition to providing hands-on coverage of personal technology, cars and home improvement, *PM* reports in depth on the science and technology behind major issues -- including such topics as disaster planning, hydrogen fuel and other energy alternatives, military expenditures, and digital privacy. Each month, nearly 9 million readers turn for advice and news to the magazine's editors and contributors, including the likes of Jay Leno, astronauts Buzz Aldrin and Tom Jones, and roboticist Daniel H. Wilson. In addition to its U.S. flagship, *Popular Mechanics* publishes 12 editions around the world. *Popular Mechanics* is published by Hearst Magazines, a unit of Hearst Corporation (www.hearst.com) and one of the world's largest publishers of monthly magazines, with nearly 200 editions around the world, including 19 U.S. titles and 20 magazines in the United Kingdom, published through its wholly owned subsidiary, The National Magazine Company Limited. Hearst reaches more adults than any other publisher of monthly magazines (74.1 million total adults, according to MRI, spring 07).

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