

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Olson International Ltd. Inducted into the MAPICS, Inc. World-Class Hall of Fame**

Olson International Ltd. serves the automotive, appliance and electronics industries as a source for precision metal stampings and assemblies. The company operates manufacturing plants in Lombard, Illinois and in Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico and employs over 500 people. Both operations are QS9000 and ISO9002 certified and both function as customer driven, quality oriented, lean manufacturing centers.

To survive and prosper in an era offering the challenges of tariffs on imported steel, consolidations and closings in the metal stamping industry and intensified global competition the company has embraced the principles of lean manufacturing and works to achieve continuous improvement by adopting innovative ways of streamlining and simplifying business processes throughout the organization. A long time user of MAPICS™ SyteLine ERP, Olson has now implemented the MAPICS™ Advanced Planning and Scheduling (APS) solution to put the customer order at the center of its business model and significantly reduce costs. The integration of SyteLine with advanced planning and scheduling lets the company synchronize manufacturing operations using orders, materials and capacity to obtain precise delivery dates. Rather than taking three days to produce a work schedule the company now does it in two hours.

According to Greg Keating, Corporate MIS manager of Olson, “By saving a day and a half with SyteLine APS we are now able to more accurately maintain our inventory levels and forecast production schedules, thus eliminating waste such as overtime, premium air freight and many other factors that affect our bottom line.” Tim Gleason, President and Chief Operations Officer of Olson adds, “We have seen real results with MAPICS solutions, and we know that we will continue to cut operational costs, increase productivity and improve the quality of our products. The more integration and automation we have between facilities, the more we can focus on innovation and constant improvement.”

MAPICS™ is the largest global solutions provider focused exclusively on manufacturing. MAPICS™ ERP software solutions are implemented on the two industry-leading technology platforms – Microsoft and IBM. MAPICS™ recently inducted Olson International into the MAPICS™ World-Class Hall of Fame in recognition of its impressive accomplishments in cutting operation costs. To earn this Hall-of-Fame status Olson had to demonstrate specific, real and significant operational improvements, cost reductions and business performance enhancements. For more information about Olson International’s world class achievements visit: <http://www.mapics.com/customers/SuccessStories/olson/default.asp>.

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