

## **A.W. CHESTERTON COMPANY RECEIVES PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXPORTS**

**WASHINGTON – U.S.** Acting Secretary of Commerce Rebecca Blank today presented the A.W. Chesterton Company with the President’s “E” Star Award for Exports at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. The “E” Awards are the highest recognition any U.S. entity may receive for making a significant contribution to the expansion of U.S. exports.

“We are extremely pleased and honored to receive the “E” Star award, as one of only five companies in the U.S. who are repeat “E” Award winners for 2012,” said Brian O’Donnell, A.W. Chesterton’s President and CEO. “In its 128 year history, Chesterton has grown from a small local Boston, Massachusetts based business, to a large global supplier with nearly 60 percent of our sales being exported. Our international business has been the engine for growth, as well as for the creation of jobs and increased business for our suppliers here in the U.S.”

“I am delighted to be recognizing this year’s Presidential ‘E’ Award winners for their outstanding contributions to U.S. exports and congratulate the A.W. Chesterton Company on its outstanding export achievement,” said Acting Secretary Blank. “It is businesses like Chesterton that are strengthening the economies of local communities, creating jobs, and contributing to the worldwide demand for ‘Made in the USA’ goods and services.”

A.W. Chesterton, headquartered in Woburn, Massachusetts, provides knowledge backed products and services to the industrial process industries around the world. Its five major product lines, including sealing devices, specialty coatings and lubricants, help process plants and equipment manufacturers improve their reliability, efficiency and productivity – supporting them in being more competitive and successful in their operations. This is the second time in the Company’s history that it has been honored with this award. In 1964, President Lyndon Johnson presented the Company with the program’s 500<sup>th</sup> “E” Award.

U.S. exports hit an all-time record of \$2.2 trillion in 2012, and supported nearly 10 million American jobs. President Obama’s National Export Initiative, which aims to double U.S. exports by the end of 2014 and support an additional 2 million jobs in the United States, is opening new avenues for U.S. exporters through enhanced export assistance and a strengthened trade agenda that is targeting emerging markets and industry sectors across the globe.

President Kennedy revived the World War II “E” symbol of excellence to honor and provide recognition to America’s exporters. The “E” Award Program was established by Executive Order 10978 on December 5, 1961. A total of 57 U.S. companies were presented with the President’s “E” Award this year.

U.S. companies are nominated for the “E” Award for Exports through the Department of Commerce’s U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service office network, located within the Department’s International Trade Administration, which has offices in 108 U.S. cities and more than 70 countries to help U.S. exporters. Four years of successive export growth and an applicant’s demonstration of an innovative international marketing plan that led to the increase in exports is a significant factor in making the award.