



NEWS INFORMATION

For Immediate Release
July 18, 2011

Contact: Frank Freeman or Pam Ward
423-585-1980

TUFF TORQ CONGRATULATES ZACHARY KLINE ON RECEIVING HIS FIRST PATENT FOR HYDROSTATIC TRANSMISSION INVENTION

MORRISTOWN, TN – Tuff Torq Corporation today announced that the United States Patent and Trademark Office has issued patent number 7,921,643 to TTC design engineers Zackary Kline and Katsumoto Mizukawa for the hydrostatic transaxle referred to as T36.

According to officials from TTC's research and development department, the T36 is a cost efficient transaxle designed for use in the lower-end models of residential lawn mowers that are currently using gear transmissions.

During a recognition ceremony held at Tuff Torq's world headquarters located in Morristown, Tennessee, Kline was presented with a plaque by company president Shigenori Sakikawa to commemorate receiving his first patent. Kline is a graduate of the University of Maryland and is a native of Walpole, Massachusetts. Kline is the son of Nancy Kline.



“It was a very special day particularly for Kline,” says Sakikawa. “It was his first patent since joining the company in 2005. This is just one of the many patents issued to the design team of Tuff Torq and its parent company

Kokyukoko Manufacturing Company for inventions and innovations relating to hydrostatic drive systems used primarily in outdoor power equipment.”

“By adding the T36 to our already broad and deep product lineup, Tuff Torq continues to provide superior solutions to OEMs by designing products for the outdoor power equipment industry that receive high praise from consumers throughout the world,” adds Sakikawa.

With 76% share-of-market and almost seven million drive systems in use, the Tuff Torq brand continues to grow. Eight out of the top ten lawn and garden tractors are powered by Tuff Torq drive systems including such brands as John Deere, Husqvarna, Craftsman and Snapper, just to name a few.

Tuff Torq maintains the highest standards of manufacturing at its 125,000-square-foot-facility located in Morristown, Tennessee in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains. The company has been ISO 9001:2000 Certified since 2001. In addition to outdoor power equipment and off-highway applications, the company also sells transmissions to the marine industry.

For more information about the complete line of Tuff Torq products, please go to our website at www.tufftorq.com or call the sales and marketing office at 423-585-1980.

#

Tuff Torq Corporation
5943 Commerce Boulevard
Morristown, Tennessee 37814
423/585-1980
www.tufftorq.com