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**For Immediate Release**

**MSC Industrial Direct  
Selected For Fortune 1000 List In 2008**

Melville, New York. (November 18 2008). MSC Industrial Direct Company, Inc. (MSC) has been selected as one of America's 1,000 largest companies by *Fortune Magazine* for the year 2008. The list, compiled annually by Fortune, identifies the top 1,000 companies as measured by total sales and represents the first time that MSC has been included in the prestigious business ranking.

MSC is engaged in the sale and distribution of metalworking and MRO products throughout North America. The company is the leading provider of metalworking products in the U.S. and sells and ships next day a total of over 550,000 products through the company's North American distribution network.

MSC first started operations in 1941 and has continually expanded both the size and scope of its business. Since 2003, the company has had an annual growth rate of 16% and has become established as a leader in the industrial supply category. In 2006, MSC acquired J&L Industrial Supply, another leader in the industrial supply industry, further building sales and expanding the company's capabilities and product offerings.

When asked what was responsible for the company's strong growth and selection to the Fortune 1000 list, David Sandler, MSC's President and Chief Executive Officer, stated, "It all goes back to our founder, Sid Jacobson, who started the company with very limited resources, a very big vision and a belief system focused on integrity. He would be very proud to see that his vision and the operating principles he put into place have resulted in MSC becoming one of the 1,000 largest businesses in America. He established the business with two overriding principles, develop and nurture a unique customer and growth-driven culture, and conduct business with the highest ethical standards. Those principles continue to guide all of the Associates at MSC to this day. Relentlessly focusing on those principles has been the key to MSC's growth and success. We want to thank all of our customers and Associates for helping us achieve this historic milestone in MSC corporate history."

**About MSC Industrial Direct Co., Inc.**

MSC Industrial Direct Co., Inc. is one of the premier distributors of Metalworking and Maintenance, Repair and Operation (“MRO”) supplies to industrial customers throughout the United States. MSC distributes approximately 590,000 industrial products from approximately 3,000 suppliers to approximately 371,000 customers. In-stock availability is approximately 99%, with next day standard delivery to the contiguous United States on qualifying orders up until 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time. MSC reaches its customers through a combination of approximately 27 million direct-mail catalogs and CD-ROMs, 97 branch sales offices, 912 sales people, the Internet and associations with some of the world's most prominent B2B e-commerce portals. For more information, visit the Company's website at <http://www.mscdirect.com>.

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