

Press Release For Immediate Release

Contact Hilda Pacheco Taylor (949) 476-1144 x 316 hilda@seaonline.org www.seaonline.org

## Vaupell, Inc. has Achieved SEA Stage One Certification

Irvine, California – April 13, 2010 – The Supplier Excellence Alliance (SEA) announced that Vaupell, Inc, located in Seattle, WA, has achieved SEA Stage One Certification.

Vaupell is a world leader in the supply of sophisticated injection molded products and assemblies. The company provides integrated solutions to customers in niche markets including aerospace, medical, defense, transportation, and electronics. Vaupell's capabilities include rapid prototyping, domestic & offshore tool design & build, custom fixtures & gauges and injection molding services for small to large volume production. *"We consider SEA certification a significant step for Vaupell and its future in serving the Aerospace industry. Our Certification in this program, along with AS9100 registration, demonstrates Vaupell's commitment to the aerospace market by providing World Class manufacturing solutions to our customers on a global basis."* said Joseph Jahn, President & CEO.

SEA is an unprecedented aerospace and defense alliance led by sub-tier suppliers committed to accelerating supply chain performance. SEA provides a proven turnkey system for supplier development targeted to mid-tier aerospace and defense customers and provides an industry voice for suppliers on issues affecting supply chain performance. SEA also provides a platform for supplier visibility, performance improvement and collaboration.

Virtually all major prime and tier-one contractors who founded SEA, helped to develop the SEA Certification as the preferred approach to continuous improvement and process management. "While the SEA Certification is voluntary, it will distinguish the highest performing supplier companies and provide our customers with a reliable way to identify low-risk, high-performing suppliers," said, Michael G. Beason, Founder, Chairman and CEO for SEA.

SEA Certification follows the three stages of the SEA Roadmap for development (Stage One – Stabilization, Stage Two – Supply Chain Integration, and Stage Three – Sustainability). Supplier companies pursue the coveted SEA Certification for each Stage of the Roadmap. To become certified, a supplier company must satisfactorily meet criteria in four critical areas: Leadership and Culture, Workforce Development, Operational Excellence, and Business Results.

SEA sponsors include Glovia, Ellison Technologies, Mori Seiki, The Rule Group and America Approved. SEA partners and alliances include The Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME), The National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA), The International Aerospace Quality Group (IAQG), A|D|S, the UK's AeroSpace, Defence and Security Trade Organization and The California Space Authority.

To learn more, visit the SEA website at http://www.seaonline.org.