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**Smith & Wesson Hosts 2007 IDPA Winter Championships**  
*10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Championship Held in Springfield, Massachusetts*

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (February 28, 2007) – Smith & Wesson Corp., the legendary 155-year old firearms maker hosted the 10<sup>th</sup> annual International Defensive Pistol Association (IDPA) Winter Championships over the weekend at the Smith & Wesson Academy and Shooting Sports Center.

This year's match marks the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary that the prestigious event has been held at the Springfield, MA based facility. As one of the top sanctioned matches in the nation, the 2007 Winter Championships featured eight different stages of fire with a total of 317 competitors from throughout the United States and the world including teams from Italy and Slovenia. The shooters competed in the five IDPA divisions: Custom Defense Pistol (CDP), Enhanced Service Pistol (ESP), Stock Service Pistol (SSP), Enhanced Service Revolver (ESR) and Stock Service Revolver (SSR). Participants were challenged with various courses of fire including low-light conditions, moving targets and a variety of real-life scenarios.

In addition to the tournament, competitors also had the opportunity to participate in many special events. On Thursday, February 22, all competitors were given the opportunity to shoot the full line of Smith & Wesson M&P handguns including the new compact models in 9mm and .40 S&W along with the newly introduced M&P45. On Friday at the Springfield Armory Museum, participants were treated to an evening with Smith & Wesson historian, Roy Jinks and co-writer Sandra Krein, where the pair showcased their new book "Images of America – Smith & Wesson." Throughout the match, participants were able to take part in special shooting seminars hosted by Smith & Wesson Professional Shooters Jerry Miculek and Doug Koenig along with other military and law enforcement professionals including Dave Harrington and Scott Warren. At the conclusion of the event, an awards banquet was held on Saturday to recognize the top performers in their respective divisions.

"The IDPA Winter Championships allow participants to compete at the highest level on creative and challenging stages of fire in one of the most advanced training facilities in the United States," said Leland Nichols, President of Smith & Wesson Corp. "Smith & Wesson is proud to have the opportunity to host this event. Based on the feedback we have received, this year's participants seem to agree that the championship continues to provide an exciting and challenging environment while delivering a great time for all. We look forward to hosting the event again next year."

The Winter Championships also incorporated the Police Officers Safety Association (POSA) Cops 4 Kids charity into the event. This marks the first time a charity has been incorporated into the match itself and a total of \$5,000 was raised for the charity. Ralph Mroz, Training Director for POSA said, "Smith & Wesson has been a strong supporter of POSA since the very beginning and we're pleased that proceeds from the IDPA event will go to the POSA Cops 4 Kids program to benefit The Jimmy Fund and pediatric cancer research."

2007 IDPA Winter Champions:

*High Industry & SSP Champion, Dave Sevigny*

*ESP Champion, Todd Jarret*

*CDP Champion, David Olhasso*

*ESR Champion, Jerry Miculek*

*SSR Champion, Craig Buckland*

*High Lady, Judith Lafreniere*

*High Senior, Chris Szczygiel*

*High Junior, Donnie Burton*

*High Law Enforcement, Eric Blanchard*

*High Military, Mike Sexton*

*High International, Stanko Filcic*

About Smith & Wesson

Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation, a global leader in safety, security, protection and sport, is parent company to Smith & Wesson Corp., one of the world's largest manufacturers of quality firearms and firearm safety/security products and parent company to Thompson/Center Arms, Inc., a premier designer and manufacturer of premium hunting rifles, black powder rifles, interchangeable firearms systems and accessories under the Thompson/Center brand. Smith & Wesson licenses shooter protection, knives, apparel, and other accessory lines. Smith & Wesson is based in Springfield, Massachusetts with manufacturing facilities in Springfield, Houlton, Maine, and Rochester, New Hampshire. The Smith & Wesson Academy is America's longest running firearms training facility for law enforcement, military and security professionals. For more information on Smith & Wesson, call (800) 331-0852 or log on to [www.smith-wesson.com](http://www.smith-wesson.com). For more information on Thompson/Center Arms, log on to [www.tcarms.com](http://www.tcarms.com).