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Smith & Wesson's Doug Koenig Wins 11th Consecutive Masters Shooting Championship

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (August 31, 2009) – Smith & Wesson Corp., announced today that the company's professional shooter Doug Koenig has claimed a new record in the history of competitive shooting by winning his 11th consecutive Masters International Shooting Championship earlier this month. This year's match, held at PASA Park in Barry, Illinois, marks the 16th time Koenig has claimed the championship title since first competing in the 1999 championship event.

The Masters International Championship consists of three separate events with a total of nine different stages of fire. Throughout the championship match, competitors shoot from various positions at target distances ranging from 25 to 200 meters. At each event the targets differ in size, shape and height, requiring shooters to make precise adjustments. During the prestigious event, Koenig won every stage of the match, set one record and tied another, and won the overall title by a considerable margin.

"Extending my winning streak at the Masters is truly an incredible feeling," said Doug Koenig. "As any competitor will tell you, winning never gets old, but at an event such as the Masters with such a talented field of competitors, it is never a given. Although I have won this match a number of times, it is always a test of endurance and skill."

According to Koenig, the courses of fire at the Masters are always challenging and he has commented that any lack of preparation on his part could bring about disastrous results. "The day I start slacking off in my preparation is the day I hang up my holsters," said Koenig. "I can give you a long list of reasons for my hard work on the practice range. I am proud to represent my sponsors at every match I attend and I am always going to give it my all."

In June, Koenig captured his first title of the season as a member of Team Smith & Wesson at the 2009 Sportsman's Team Challenge. Throughout his career, Koenig has won numerous national and world championships in pistol, shotgun and rifle events. Over the last twelve years he has dominated the field of competitive pistol shooting, winning three World Speed Shooting Championships; an International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC) World Championship; three World Action Pistol Championships; a World All-Around Championship title; and now his 11th consecutive Masters International Shooting Championship.

"We are proud of all Doug's accomplishments throughout the years, said Tom Kelly, Vice President of Marketing for Smith & Wesson. "Having Doug as part of our team is truly a pleasure, and we look forward to supporting his future accomplishments. Smith & Wesson also is proud to support the shooting sports that are a vital part of our industry."

Koenig's talent and preparation before each match is evident not only by his long list of accomplishments, but also by the passing of these traits to his son - Trevor Koenig. At this year's

2009 Masters International Shooting Championship, Trevor won the Junior Title, allowing the father and son duo to take home two titles.

“I am extremely proud of how Trevor performed throughout the event,” said Doug. “He has worked hard to develop his skills and speaking as both a father and instructor, I couldn’t be happier with the progress he has made in his shooting as well as the sportsmanship he demonstrated during the match.”

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 Company, 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. For more information on Thompson/Center Arms, log on to www.tcarms.com.