



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Southern Mulch Named In Top 15% of Fastest-Growing Private Companies in the U.S.

SPARTANBURG, SC – (August 27, 2009) Southern Mulch is pleased to announce that it has been recognized as one of the fastest-growing private companies in the U.S., according to *Inc.* magazine. Ranked #722 out of 5000 companies, they are one of only 31 companies in South Carolina to receive this recognition, and one of only two companies in Spartanburg County.

The 2009 Inc. 5000 serves as a unique report card on the U.S. economy. Despite the ongoing recession, aggregate revenue among the companies on the list actually increased, with a median three-year growth rate of 126 percent. Southern Mulch has grown 396% over this same time, and their retail store sales have increased every year since their founding. The Inc. 5000 are also responsible for creating more than 1 million jobs since their founding.

“We are pleased and excited to receive this recognition,” said Christian Swensen, one of Southern Mulch’s two founders. “All of our associates have worked really hard to provide great products and service for our customers these past six years.”

Success Through Risk-Taking

“Since we began operations in 2003 as a bark blowing company, we have tried adding several product lines, including pond supplies and erosion control. However, our best success has been with retail stores with good curb appeal on highly-trafficked roads,” said Scott Montgomery, the other founder. “Our “mulch and stone super-store” concept, with a broad offering of quality products and fast delivery, has helped differentiate us. We are also very thankful to our customers for their loyalty and we hope to continue to earn their business. Because of our success, we have been able to give back to the community by providing support to many local non-profit organizations.”

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Inc. Magazine Methodology

The Inc. 5000 is ranked according to percentage revenue growth from 2005 through 2008. To qualify, companies have to be U.S.-based, privately held, for profit, and independent -- not subsidiaries or divisions of other companies -- as of December 31, 2008. Revenue in 2005 must have been at least \$200,000, and revenue in 2008 must have been at least \$2 million. Complete results of the Inc. 5000 can be found on Inc.com.

About Southern Mulch, Inc.

Founded in 2003 by Scott Montgomery and Christian Swensen, Southern Mulch is one of the Upstate's premiere manufacturers and distributors of quality bark, mulch, compost, soils and stone for the commercial and residential landscaping markets. Retail operations are located in Boiling Springs and Greenville, South Carolina, with product available for pick up or delivery. In addition, Southern Mulch accepts yard waste at their recycling facility in Fairforest, and last year they recycled & composted over 700 tractor-trailer loads of leaves. To learn more about the company and its products, visit www.SouthernMulch.com.

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