

For Immediate Release

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New Dust-Off® Formula Deters Inhalant Abuse

Proactive efforts reflect Falcon's dedication to making a difference and saving lives.

Branchburg, NJ (October 23rd, 2006) – Falcon Safety Products®, manufacturer of the Dust-Off® brand of consumer electronics cleaning products, today introduced a new version of its industry leading Dust-Off compressed-gas duster. While entirely safe when used as directed, compressed-gas dusters are one of many aerosol products too often abused by young adults searching for a cheap and sometimes deadly high. In an attempt to discourage this dangerous practice of inhalant abuse, Falcon developed a new formulation for its dusters, incorporating an additive that makes the contents of the can extremely unpalatable to those who attempt to abuse them. The additive was developed to have no adverse effects with normal, recommended use.

“This new formulation of Dust-Off has a significant meaning to me and my family,” said Jeff Williams, an East Cleveland Police Officer. “Over a year ago, we lost our son Kyle to inhalant abuse - he died inhaling the contents of a Dust-Off compressed-gas duster. I couldn't be more pleased with the way Falcon has faced the issue of inhalant abuse head on and how as a company, it has dedicated itself to bringing a safer form of its product to market. I understand that Falcon began this project a few years ago and that adding the deterrent to Dust-Off was a long and difficult process, but their renewed commitment to finalizing the project in light of Kyle's death reflects the level of care they have for consumer safety and that should not go unnoticed. While the deterrent isn't a solution to inhalant abuse by itself, it's another important cog in the wheel. Together with increased education, it will ultimately make a huge difference in fighting inhalant abuse in the long run,” added Officer Williams.

Commonly referred to as “huffing,” “bagging,” or “dusting,” inhalant abuse is an extremely dangerous and potentially fatal practice, and shockingly, the incidence of the abuse is on the rise among young Americans. Falcon Safety Products is deeply concerned about the issue and maintains an unwavering commitment to consumer safety. For over 20 years, Falcon has taken numerous, proactive steps in communicating the dangers of inhalant abuse and promoting the proper use of its products.

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“This is the most recent initiative in Falcon’s ongoing campaign to combat the dangerous and disturbing practice of inhalant abuse,” said Phil Lapin, President and CEO of Falcon Safety Products. “It’s important to understand that this is not a definitive solution for battling inhalant abuse; however, when combined with education, which has proved to be most effective, it may help deter abuse even further,” added Lapin. “Developing the new aerosol took more than two years of R&D work and substantial financial investment and bringing it to market has been no minor endeavor. However, if our efforts help make a difference in the fight against inhalant abuse and save even one life, it will have been all worthwhile,” concluded Lapin.

Falcon’s efforts to combat inhalant abuse have included ongoing public outreach, detailed product labeling and the support of several national agencies, including the National Inhalant Prevention Coalition and the Alliance for Consumer Education. Falcon has always believed that the single, most effective method in battling inhalant abuse is the education of children and their parents, as well as educators and school system administrators.

The National Inhalant Prevention Coalition (NIPC), a public-private agency that exists to promote awareness and recognition of the under publicized problem of inhalant use, works with state agencies, schools, businesses, trade associations, media, civic organizations, law enforcement, Poison Control Centers and interfaith groups throughout the country to educate and devise multifaceted awareness and prevention campaigns designed to educate youth and adults about the debilitating effects of inhalants. For several years, Falcon and the National Inhalant Prevention Coalition have worked together and have combined their efforts to have as much of an impact as possible on the issue of inhalants and share the same belief that education is the key in battling inhalant abuse and protecting the nation’s youth.

“Year after year, Falcon continues to step up to the plate when it comes to battling inhalant abuse and protecting our children,” said Harvey Weiss, President of the National Inhalant Prevention Coalition. “As a leading aerosol manufacturer, Falcon knows all too well the dangerous and deadly practice of inhalant abuse as its Dust-Off dusters are one of over 1,400 common household products, many of which are non-aerosol, that are abused as inhalants. Taking it upon themselves to improve their product and make it less likely to be abused, is one of the most bold moves a company can do and one that the NIPC urges other manufactures to follow. Falcon should be commended for their ongoing efforts and level of concern they have for the well being of their consumers,” added Mr. Weiss.

“My message is simple and straightforward; you need to educate yourself about the thousands of products that can be abused as inhalants and know the signs in order to protect your children,” said Jeff Williams. “As a police officer, one would think that I would have known about inhalants, but I didn’t. Had I known the warning signs and what to look for, I may have been able to save my son’s life.”

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Founded in 1953, Falcon Safety Products, Inc. is a privately held corporation headquartered in Central New Jersey. A world leader in compressed-gas technology, Falcon manufactures a diverse line of products including the Dust-Off® brand of computer / personal electronics cleaning products and signal horns for the marine, sport and safety markets. For additional information, please contact Falcon Safety Products, Inc. at 908-707-4900 or visit www.falconsafety.com.

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