



## For Immediate Release

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### **Hopkins Acquires Mr. Funnel**

**EMPORIA, KS. October 6, 2011** – Hopkins Manufacturing Corporation announced today that it has acquired the Mr. Funnel product line. This acquisition strengthens Hopkins as the leading provider of value-added fluid handling products to the automotive and recreational products aftermarket under the FloTool brand.

Mr. Funnel is the leading portable fuel filter solution. Its' proprietary technology filters out water, dirt and debris from a variety of types of fuels. Using Mr. Funnel technology helps prevent engine damage from contaminants. Their fuel filters are commonly used by: do-it-yourselfers for mowers and lawn & garden power equipment; contractors for generators; farmers for tractors and generators; off-road enthusiasts, boaters and pilots. What they all have in common is a need to protect their investments in equipment by making sure they have clean fuel going into their tanks.

"This acquisition reinforces Hopkins' leadership in value-added fluid handling products. We are excited about the opportunity to work with our customers to expand their sales," said Bradley T. Kraft, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hopkins. "There is a significant opportunity to increase our customers' sales by placing the Mr. Funnel products wherever they sell gas cans, generators or power equipment. "

"Changes in fuels have also played a role in expanding demand for this portable fuel technology. Traditional gasoline is already a magnet for water. This problem is compounded when ethanol is added, making fuel even more susceptible to contaminants," said Mike Williams, Hopkins Vice President of Marketing. "These containments can turn into huge repair bills. The great thing about Mr. Funnel fuel filters is that they are easy to use and so effective."

Hopkins will distribute the Mr. Funnel products from its Emporia, Kansas distribution center.

## About Hopkins Manufacturing Corporation

Headquartered in Emporia, Kansas, Hopkins is a leading manufacturer and marketer of quality, innovative specialized towing products and functional accessories for the automotive and recreational vehicle aftermarkets. Hopkins markets its products under a number of well-recognized brand names, including: **Hopkins Towing Solutions**® Trailer Wiring & Brake Control Products, **Sub-Zero**® Snow & Ice Tools, **Carrand**™ Vehicle Cleaning Products, **Flo-Tool**® Fluid Handling Products, **Go Gear**® Mobile Solutions, **nVISION**® Vehicle Safety Products, **Vortex**™ High Performance Mud Guards and **Juice**™ Booster Cables. For 59 years, the company has been guided by the philosophy that its products will deliver meaningful innovation, performance and value to the consumer. Hopkins is a portfolio company of ONCAP.

## About ONCAP

ONCAP, a leading private equity based in Toronto, Canada, invested in Hopkins in June 2011. ONCAP, in partnership with operating company management teams, invests in and builds shareholder value in North American small and mid-sized companies that are leaders in their defined market niche and possess meaningful acquisition and organic growth potential. ONCAP is the mid-market private equity platform of Onex, one of North America's oldest and most successful investment firms committed to acquiring and building high-quality businesses in partnership with talented management teams. For more information on ONCAP, please visit [www.oncap.com](http://www.oncap.com).