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**Compatible Technology International Volunteers Receive the
“Outstanding Volunteerism Award”**

Battelle rewards employees who aided in the development of pearl millet processing units

ST. PAUL, Minn. – May 5, 2010 – Three volunteers who played a critical role in helping Compatible Technology International (CTI) develop the first hand-operated system for processing pearl millet have been recognized for their charitable work by their employer, the Battelle Memorial Institute.

Battelle, the world’s largest independent research and development organization, based in Columbus, Ohio, honored Reade Harpham, Thom Haubert and Jeffrey Held with the Outstanding Volunteerism Award at a ceremony held April 30 in Ohio. Harpham manages the Human Centered Design Group, Haubert is a Mechanical Engineering manager, and Held is a designer and rapid prototyping coordinator. The three are being recognized for forming the nonprofit OneLab Initiative, which helped CTI convert an early prototype into a compact, modular system to process pearl millet.

“The OneLab team’s work allowed the pearl millet processing units to be modularized and carried in a suitcase,” said CTI board member Erv Lentz. “These units were taken to Africa where they were operated by the local people who were amazed at the output. Work is now underway at CTI and the OneLab Initiative to incorporate the necessary modifications identified during the Africa trip, moving our design toward eventual production.”

Pearl millet is a staple food grain that feeds at least 500 million people in some of the most malnourished regions in the world. In Africa, pearl millet farmers often work on small plots of land and grow just enough food to feed their families. The women who break down pearl millet after harvest have estimated they lose about half of their grain due to their rudimentary processing methods. With help from the OneLab Initiative volunteers employed at Battelle, CTI has developed a set of tools for processing pearl millet that can more than double the amount of grain farmers can get from their harvests.

Compatible Technology International (CTI) is a St. Paul, MN based nonprofit organization that develops appropriate technology for developing countries to address the needs for adequate food and clean water. CTI engineers, volunteers and partner organizations have been working

for several years to develop the components necessary to process pearl millet in three phases – stripping, threshing and winnowing – to separate the grain from the stalk and other plant debris.

In December 2009, Haubert accompanied CTI's Executive Director Roger Salway on a trip to Mali, where they performed "proof of concept" field tests with local farmers and a crop research institute.

"CTI readily provided that 'link' from our comfortable and affluent lives here in the U.S. to the very real, basic needs that exist in other parts of the world," Haubert said. "Going to Africa was one of the most significant events in my life. To see and work with these people who really are the same as us, just born into completely different circumstances, was very impactful."

"Reade, Jeff and I work in a medical product development business to create things to help patients and companies, but our OneLab work can have a much more substantial impact in people's lives," continued Haubert. "I look forward to several years from now being able to look back on the work we've done and see the impact that a small group of people, working with organizations like CTI, can have in this world."

The three workers are eager to continue their work with CTI, as well as other projects they are pursuing with assistive devices for the disabled and deep-well water pumping in Africa.



Photo Caption: Compatible Technology International volunteer and Battelle employee Thom Haubert demonstrating the CTI Pearl Millet equipment in Mali.

Compatible Technology International (CTI), a St. Paul, Minnesota nonprofit, was founded in 1981 by a group of food scientists, missionaries and research engineers to address the post-harvest needs of the food chain. The team sought ways in which their knowledge, expertise and human kindness might help the poor in developing countries to resolve food problems and increase food supply by using local resources. CTI's mission is to improve the lives of people in developing countries by designing food and water technologies that are sustainable and appropriate to local cultures, and by collaborating with in-country organizations to identify needs and to achieve widespread use of our technologies to relieve hunger and poverty. CTI has extended its work to many parts of Africa, Central America, the Caribbean, India and Bangladesh, where its post-harvest processing devices are used on a daily basis. For more information about CTI, visit www.compatibletechnology.org.

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