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Birclar Electric & Electronics
Great Lakes Service & Sales

## BIRCLAR AND GREAT LAKES ANNOUNCE MERGER

May 1, 2006 Detroit, MI

The Birclar Electric and Great Lakes Service & Sales today jointly announced the merger of their Michigan operations to form the largest electro-mechanical repair operation in the greater Detroit area. The combined company will base its operations at Birclar's state-of-the-art repair facility in Romulus, Michigan. The terms of the merger provide that all of the Great Lakes' operations and skilled professionals will join Birclar effective immediately. "We are all very excited about this merger," said Kevin Toor, President of Birclar. "The combination of two of Detroit's largest and best known electrical apparatus repair companies will enable us to provide enhanced services to our combined customer base."

Both companies will continue to be affiliated with The Kiemle-Hankins Company, headquartered in Toledo, Ohio. Kiemle-Hankins, founded in 1928, is one of the largest providers of industrial and repair maintenance services in the country. Going forward, Great Lakes will focus on operating its large motor repair facility in Gary, Indiana and will work closely with both Birclar and Kiemle-Hankins to ensure a smooth transition. "We are very pleased that our two organizations will be combining efforts to service the Detroit market," stated Paul Miller, President of Great Lakes. "This is an

excellent opportunity for all of our people to grow and expand. Even more importantly, this merger will enable our team to provide unmatched capabilities and expertise to our joint customer base."

Birclar, founded in 1969, provides repair services to a wide variety of industrial customers in the motor repair, dynamometer repair and servo motor repair areas. Great Lakes, founded in 1992, has been one of Detroit's leading large motor repair service providers, with a special expertise in servicing the steel industry. Both companies also provide a full range of field service and preventive maintenance capabilities. The combined operations will employ more than 35 repair professionals and utilize leading edge technologies that can reduce the life cycle costs associated with industrial machinery.

"The decision to combine operations into Romulus was based on the size and capabilities of our Romulus facility," commented Toor. "We are confident that all of our customers will be pleased with the results of the merger."

## For further information contact:

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