PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contacts:*James Korenchen (505) 797-6671*
Rick Held (505) 247-9660 ext: 114

Illinois Tool Works Inc. Purchases Quasar International, Inc.

Albuquerque, NM – March 8, 2007 – Illinois Tool Works Inc. (NYSE: ITW), a leading designer and producer of highly engineered components, equipment, consumable systems, and specialty products for customers around the world, announces the purchase of Quasar International, Inc., the inventor of PCRT (Process Compensated Resonant Testing), a revolutionary new NDT (Nondestructive Testing) method. Quasar is located in Albuquerque, NM. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Quasar will continue to operate as an independent company, which is consistent with the ITW decentralized organization structure. Quasar will be associated with MAGNAFLUX, a division of Illinois Tool Works Inc., a leading worldwide supplier of Magnetic Particle equipment, Dye Penetrant inspection equipment, and associated chemical products used for nondestructive testing. Quasar operations in Albuquerque and Detroit will remain essentially unchanged, and existing distribution and customer agreements will not be affected.

Steve Groeninger, general manager of MAGNAFLUX said, “MAGNAFLUX has been a leader in NDT since the company invented magnetic particle inspection 80 years ago. We plan to continue to be a leader in our industry for generations to come and the acquisition of Quasar will play a key role in that strategy. Quasar’s PCRT is clearly the future of high volume NDT and we intend to help them realize their full potential.”

Jim Schwarz, Quasar Business Unit Manager, commented on the purchase saying, “We are delighted to be an ITW company and to be a part of MAGNAFLUX. This acquisition is an endorsement of PCRT as a superior NDT method, and access to MAGNAFLUX infrastructure will allow us to provide better products, service and support to a wider group of customers.”

Groeninger and Schwarz indicated that their immediate focus is on four goals.

1. Maintain Quasar’s customer relationships through continuity of Quasar management and staff.
2. Continue to advance the Quasar PCRT technology and product development.
3. Expand the Quasar manufacturing and service infrastructure to improve product availability and customer support.
4. Position Quasar products within the MAGNAFLUX product line so that Quasar’s structurally based, high volume testing capability is complemented by the existing Magnaglo®, Zyglo®, and Spotcheck® product lines, enabling customers to choose the best method for their application.

Quasar has delivered more than 100 PCRT systems to manufacturers in North America, Europe, and Asia. The systems are primarily used in the automotive industry where they provide superior NDT with significant cost savings, but they are also used in other industries where product quality is a primary concern.

About Illinois Tool Works Inc. (NYSE:ITW) is a $14.1 billion diversified manufacturer of highly engineered components and industrial systems and consumables. The company consists of approximately 750 business units in 49 countries and employs some 55,000 people worldwide.

About MAGNAFLUX, a Division of Illinois Tool Works Inc., is a leading worldwide supplier of magnetic particle, and dye penetrant inspection equipment and associated chemical products used for nondestructive testing.

About Quasar International
Quasar International manufactures and sells its proprietary PCRT systems to manufacturers worldwide. PCRT is a proven NDT method that offers highest quality defect detection at significantly lower cost than traditional methods. It vibrates the part, measures its resonant frequencies, and statistically compares the resonance pattern with a reference resonance pattern. The result is a completely automatable process, which quantitatively measures the strength of each component. Quasar International is headquartered in Albuquerque, N.M. with application engineers, sales representatives, and distributors based in key locations in North America, Europe, and Japan.