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Earl Harford Honored by American Academy of Audiology with Samuel F. Lybarger Award

MINNEAPOLIS, May 9, 2012 – **Starkey Hearing Technologies**, a global leader in hearing technology, is excited to announce that long-time employee Earl Harford, Ph.D., was honored by the **American Academy of Audiology** with the Samuel F. Lybarger Award for Achievements in Industry. This award is given for significant pioneering activity within the field of hearing.

“We congratulate Dr. Harford and are proud of our long standing affiliation with someone who is such an integral part of the industry,” said Senior Vice President of Starkey Hearing Technologies Brandon Sawalich. “We look forward to many more years of working alongside him.”

A true pioneer in audiology, Harford’s efforts have helped shape the profession for the past 60 years. He has decades of experience in academia including influential roles at Northwestern University, Vanderbilt University and the University of Minnesota Medical School, where he was the first audiologist in the state to openly dispense hearing aids. He influenced the evolution of the CROS and BICROS hearing aids and was among the earliest researchers to introduce tympanometry, acoustic reflex measurements and real-ear measurement in the United States.

Harford joined Starkey Hearing Technologies as Director of University Services. His clinical experience led to the commercial development and introduction of real-ear measurements in the United States. Harford was one of the early advocates of the Au.D. degree. While employed by Starkey Hearing Technologies, he originated and directed the audiology internship program, which more than 150 audiologists, many of whom became leaders in the profession, completed.

Harford remains an ongoing resource for Starkey Hearing Technologies and the Starkey Hearing Foundation. For more information about Harford and the American Academy of Audiology’s honor visit www.audiology.org.

About The American Academy of Audiology

The American Academy of Audiology is the world’s largest professional organization of, by and for audiologists. With an active membership of more than 11,000 audiologists, the Academy promotes quality hearing and balance care by advancing the profession of audiology through leadership, advocacy, education, public awareness, and support of research. For more information about the American Academy of Audiology, visit www.audiology.org.

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About Starkey® Hearing Technologies

Starkey Hearing Technologies is a privately held, global hearing technology company headquartered in Eden Prairie, Minn. The company is recognized for its innovative design, development and distribution of comprehensive digital hearing systems. Founded in 1967, Starkey Hearing Technologies currently employs more than 3,500 people, operates 21 facilities and conducts business in more than 100 markets worldwide. The company develops, manufactures and distributes hearing aids via five distinct brands – Audibel®, AudioSync™, NuEar™, MicroTech™ and its original brand, Starkey. For more information, visit StarkeyHearingTechnologies.com.

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