



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 1, 2010

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NEWS RELEASE

Modesto Forklift Rodeo Winners Headed to Grand Nationals

MODESTO, Cal. – Three order selectors from Dot Foods' Modesto distribution center are headed to the company's Grand National Forklift Rodeo Finals in Mt. Sterling, Ill., June 24 after winning first place in the Modesto qualifying finals. On May 26, Dot crowned winners on three pieces of equipment – a sit-down forklift, mule (pallet jack) and narrow-aisle reach truck.

Maneuvering through an obstacle course with their choice of material handling equipment, competitors carried a trash can with a basketball balanced on it through a timed obstacle course, with penalties for safety infractions or contact with the course boundaries. The winner on each piece of equipment is eligible to compete in the Grand Nationals, where the prizes include six possible vacation packages, such as a trip to the Bahamas.

"Each of our winners demonstrated precision, speed and knowledge of the equipment, all of which are qualities necessary to compete in the national event," said Becky Shokraii, Dot's California HR manager. "The Forklift Rodeo is a great event because it promotes safe and efficient equipment operation among the employees while also giving them the opportunity to win an all-expenses-paid trip to the Grand Nationals and ultimately a trip to one of several vacation destinations."



Somsay Phengsavanh of Fresno came out on top on the traditional forklift.



Steve Alves of Turlock showed off his skills and came in first on the narrow-aisle.



Patrick Palmateer of Modesto (left) took first place on the mule.

Dot Foods Inc. carries 92,000 products from 500 food industry manufacturers and is the largest food redistributor in the United States. Dot Foods and Dot Transportation sell and deliver foodservice, convenience, retail, vending, equipment and supplies to leading distributors in all 50 states. Dot Foods operates eight distribution centers in: Modesto, Calif.; Vidalia, Ga.; Burley, Idaho; Mt. Sterling, Ill.; Cambridge City, Ind.; Williamsport, Md.; Liverpool, N.Y.; and Ardmore, Okla. For information, visit

www.dotfoods.com.

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Editor's Note: Dot Foods Inc. is located at 2200 Nickerson, Modesto, CA 95358.