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For Immediate Release

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Brier Hill, PA - Congressman John Murtha today joined officials of Shumar Industries to announce the awarding of a five-year, \$4.5 million contract to produce trailers for the U.S. Navy and to cut the ribbon on a new 15,000-square-foot facility in which the trailers are being manufactured. Shumar's will add about 10 new jobs as a result of the contract, with additional job creation expected.

In addition, Murtha announced that Argon ST, which has a plant in Uniontown, is preparing to award Shumar's a \$1 million contract to build a prototype of a sophisticated modular winch for the Navy's new generation AN/SLQ 25-A surface ship torpedo defense system.

The trailer contract, with the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Crane Division, is Shumar's first prime Department of Defense contract. The company has performed DoD work as a subcontractor for several years.

Under the contract, Shumar's manufactured two trailers, known as tactical fifth wheel trailers, which the Navy inspected and tested to determine whether modifications were needed. NSWC Crane has ordered an additional 15 trailers.

Used by the Marine Corps for command, control and communications, the trailers have served as a basic platform in the development of communications systems for the First Marine Expeditionary Force. When delivered, the trailers are outfitted into a variety of configurations with combinations of communications shelters, environmental control units, power generation sets, communications masts and/or custom storage/deployment systems.

Other vendors in the 12th Congressional District also are benefiting from the contract, including Lesleh Precision, Inc. in Belle Vernon, Senoj Enterprises in Brownsville, B.T. Brakes in Connellsville and Fayette Engineering in Uniontown.

In addition, Coherent Systems, which has facilities in Fayette and Cambria counties and has contractual ties with both Shumar's and ArgonST, supported Shumar's in the project. Coherent supports Marine Corps and Air Force programs within the 12th Congressional District.

Congressman Murtha, who has been instrumental in attracting defense-related work to the region, said he is pleased that the entire manufacturing effort for the trailers is being performed in the 12th Congressional District.

"I'm delighted to see employers like Shumar Industries, which in the past had built a successful business in the manufacture and refurbishment of heavy-duty mining equipment, transition the technology used in those civilian efforts to technology used by the military," Murtha said. "Shumar's ability and willingness to adapt to a changing economy is bringing both good primary and spinoff jobs to the area and continuing to build on the solid base of defense work we've

established here in Southwestern Pennsylvania."

Eli Shumar, president of Shumar Industries, said, "I'd like to thank local officials, including Congressman Murtha; Joe Carlin, Joel Denney and Jill Delor of Argon ST; and Fred Lebder, former Fayette County commissioner, for their support on this program and for helping us win this contract and bring new jobs to Fayette County."

Under the contract with Argon ST, Shumar's will complete the prototype winch by fall, with orders expected for 30 to 50 winches under contracts totaling \$2.5 million to \$4 million. Shumar's has already built a test facility for the project. To date Shumar's has been awarded more than \$2.8 million in subcontracts from ArgonST.

"The strong relationship between ArgonST and Shumar's has been highly beneficial from many perspectives," said Joe Carlin, vice president of Argon ST. "It has benefited ArgonST, Shumar's, the U.S. Navy and Pennsylvania's 12th District. Growth in Fayette County has been directly attributable to Congressman Murtha's strong support of the military, and in particular the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Our success in this area with high-quality vendors such as Shumar Industries has encouraged other high-technology vendors to consider this area for new expansion."

The winches are used to tow acoustic decoys that deflect torpedoes away from the ship. The goal of the design effort was to produce a lighter-weight winch as newer ships, such as the destroyer and shallow water combat ships (DDX and LCS), become part of the Navy's fleet. The winch was designed by Canada-based ODIM Spectrum Ltd., which earlier this month announced that the company is opening a U.S. subsidiary, ODIM Defense Systems, in Johnstown, Cambria County, because of its work with Argon and Johnstown-based Concurrent Technologies Corp.

"This networking of companies within the 12th Congressional District is exactly what we hoped for when we created the environment to attract defense work to the region," Murtha said. "Southwestern Pennsylvania has earned a reputation as a hub for high-quality, cost-competitive defense work because these businesses work together to provide state-of-the-art products that the nation's armed forces can depend on."