

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Industry Contact: Matt Rice  
Blue Heron Communications  
(800) 654-3766  
matt@blueheroncomm.com

**Thompson/Center Arms Earns NRA Golden Bullseye Award**  
*Thompson/Center's Pro Hunter™ Selected as "Rifle of the Year"*

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (April 23, 2007) – Thompson/Center Arms, a Smith & Wesson Company, announced today that its *Pro Hunter™* has received the National Rifle Association (NRA) Golden Bullseye Award for "Rifle of the Year" from American Hunter. Thompson/Center received the award during the 136<sup>th</sup> NRA Annual Meeting & Exhibits held in St. Louis, Missouri, on April 13-15, 2007.

The NRA Golden Bullseye Awards are presented annually to acknowledge the finest products available in the shooting sports industry. A committee of NRA editors and staff, representing more than a century of collective experience in the firearms industry, voted on the awards. To be eligible for the Golden Bullseye Award, a shooting-related product must be a new product available in the market, innovative and reliable in the field.

"Everyone at Thompson/Center is very excited by the overwhelming response to our Pro Hunter rifle," said Gregg Ritz, President of Smith & Wesson Hunting. "Our employees have worked hard to earn this recognition and we are extremely proud of the impact our products have had on the shooting sports industry. At Thompson/Center, we are dedicated to improving hunting technology through innovation and craftsmanship. This award reflects that commitment and we would like to thank all of those in the industry who have supported us throughout the years."

With its unique single-shot frame, the Thompson/Center Pro Hunter can be easily converted into a centerfire or rimfire rifle, muzzleloader or shotgun. The Pro Hunter's interchangeable barrel system allows users to easily tailor the firearm to meet a variety of needs. Each firearm is available in a multitude of calibers, stocks, forends and barrel lengths. Featuring Thompson/Center's FlexTech™ Recoil System, the Pro Hunter is manufactured with a Sims recoil pad and "absorbing arches" that help to reduce felt recoil by approximately 43 percent. Every Pro Hunter model features a pivoting hammer spur called the Swing Hammer™, which makes the firearm suitable for right or left-handed shooters using scopes. Features that are exclusive to the muzzleloading system include the Speed Breech™, a new breech plug that makes unloading and cleaning a simple process and the Power Rod™, a patented pivoting handle that is integrated with a solid aluminum ramrod.

**About Thompson/Center Arms, Inc.**

Thompson/Center Arms, a Smith & Wesson company, is a leading designer, manufacturer, and marketer of premium hunting firearms and accessories under the Thompson/Center brand. The company designs and manufactures black powder rifles, centerfire hunting rifles and handguns, interchangeable firearms systems and accessories at its Rochester, New Hampshire location. For more information on Thompson/Center Arms, log on to [www.tcarms.com](http://www.tcarms.com). For more information on Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation, log on to [www.smith-wesson.com](http://www.smith-wesson.com).

