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Thompson/Center Arms Introduces Company's First Bolt-Action Rifle
Custom Gun Builder Delivers Innovation and Precision with ICON™ Rifle

ROCHESTER, N.H. (February 26, 2007) -- Thompson/Center Arms, a Smith & Wesson company, has introduced the ICON™, its first bolt-action centerfire rifle. Designed and manufactured as an entirely new bolt-action platform, the ICON incorporates several custom features that deliver the accuracy, reliability and quality that sportsmen have come to expect from Thompson/Center products.

“While developing the ICON, our engineers and designers worked with numerous master gunsmiths, tactical shooters and hunters to better understand what features they desired in a premium bolt-action rifle,” said Gregg Ritz, President of Smith & Wesson Hunting. “Our goal was to manufacture a new breed of bolt action, one that was capable of achieving sub-minute of angle accuracy whether in the field or for competition. By incorporating several innovative features, we have designed the ICON to deliver superb balance and stylish good looks in a practical and extremely capable long-range firearm. Offering an ideal blend of craftsmanship and value, the ICON signifies a new chapter in the history of American made rifles.”

Originally debuted at SHOT Show 2007, the first models of the Thompson/Center ICON will be available by June 2007. The initial models will be chambered in .22-250, .243, .308 and the new .30 TC (Thompson/Center) cartridge. Featuring a 24-inch, button rifled match grade barrel, the ICON comes standard with a 5R rifling design that enables long-term accuracy and consistency. At the end of the barrel, the ICON features a 60-degree chamfered crown designed to increase accuracy and durability. The polished blue barrel has been fitted with a solid-top receiver with integral Weaver-style rails in front of and behind the ejection port.

Inside the ICON, the rifle features a uniform bedding block made possible by the innovative Interlok™ bedding system. This unique system contains three integral recoil lugs designed to interlock with the flat bottom receiver and the aluminum bedding block. The Interlok system provides a rigid and stable platform for securing the barreled action into the stock. At the rear of the CNC machined receiver, the ICON features a polished steel cocking indicator that has been integrated into the bolt sleeve. The cocking indicator provides the user with a visual and tactical reference that the firing pin is in the cocked position. Each ICON also comes standard with a full-diameter, three lug bolt that incorporates an interchangeable bolt handle, 60-degree bolt lift and a skeletonized shroud.

The rifle's two-position safety allows the user to load and unload the rifle with the safety on. For added security, the ICON features an independent bolt lock to prevent the bolt from opening during field use. Another key feature is the fully adjustable trigger that allows the user to adjust the trigger pull from 2.5 to 6 pounds without removing the rifle from the stock. Originally pre-set to 3 to 3.5 pounds, the trigger can be adjusted for initial take-up and over-travel as well.

Distinctive as it is practical, the ICON is available with a classic style American walnut stock. This high-grade wood features 20 lines-to-the-inch, borderless cut checkering that compliments the curved edges and graceful lines of the rifle. Also adding to the aesthetics is the full-body jeweled bolt design that provides for a smooth, nonbinding action.

The ICON comes standard with a three-round, single stack detachable magazine that helps maintain ideal alignment for flawless feeding. Flush with the belly of the stock, the box magazine features a release button that is located forward of the magazine well. With a weight of 7.5 pounds, the ICON balances well and points naturally.

Leland Nichols, President of Smith & Wesson Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation, added, "Thompson/Center Arms has an outstanding history of innovation and quality in black powder rifles and holds a leading position in this category. By entering the market for bolt-action centerfire rifles with the new ICON, we have significantly broadened our product offering for hunters and sportsmen. Thompson/Center's hunting rifle expertise, leadership in black powder rifles and ability to enter into the bolt-action centerfire rifle product category, are among the key reasons that Smith & Wesson recently acquired this great brand."

About Thompson/Center Arms and Smith & Wesson

Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation is parent company to Smith & Wesson Corp., one of the world's largest manufacturers of quality firearms and firearm safety/security products. Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation is also the parent company to Thompson/Center Arms, Inc., a premier designer and manufacturer of premium hunting rifles, black powder rifles, handguns, interchangeable firearms systems and accessories under the Thompson/Center brand. Smith & Wesson also licenses shooter protection, knives, apparel, and other accessory lines. Smith & Wesson is based in Springfield, Massachusetts with manufacturing facilities in Springfield, Houlton, Maine, and Rochester, New Hampshire. The Smith & Wesson Academy is America's longest running firearms training facility for law enforcement, military and security professionals. For more information on Smith & Wesson, call (800) 331-0852 or log on to www.smith-wesson.com. For more information on Thompson/Center Arms, log on to www.tcarms.com.