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**REPUBLIC MACHINE CONTINUES GROWTH DESPITE DOWN ECONOMY
Leading Manufacturer of Industrial Shredders Celebrates 100th Anniversary by Hiring
More Employees and Expanding Capacity**

Louisville, KY — At a time when many U.S. manufacturers are struggling, Republic Machine is expanding --- and it is celebrating its 100th anniversary. Republic Machine of Louisville, Kentucky, which engineers and manufactures industrial shredders, has doubled growth and added staff in the last three years---an uncommon feat in today's economy. Its success also has resulted in cost savings for hundreds of other U.S.-based companies by enabling them to cost-effectively recycle and reuse industrial materials from plastics and carpet to huge lengths of pipe.

“Our success is based on recognizing our customer’s needs and engineering the solutions to meet those needs, from helping customers cut costs to helping them reduce their impact on the environment,” said George R. Sotsky, who founded this division of the Republic Family of companies and is CEO and President.

Republic’s sales have doubled in each of the last two years, and it has added 10 new full-time positions and a number of part-time flex positions. The company has moved to an expanded headquarters with more functional manufacturing space, and it has quadrupled its office space. Republic Machine’s prosperity also has been beneficial to its Louisville-based vendor network, including machining companies, steel suppliers, hydraulics and drive-train manufacturers, and other critical vendors.

The Republic legacy began in 1911 in Louisville with the opening of the Republic Welding Company (RWC), a 15-man automotive machine shop. Since Sotsky and his partner acquired RWC in 1970, the company has adapted with the times, moving from an automotive emphasis to engineering and



manufacturing heavy machinery. Much of the growth can be attributed to Sotsky, an electrical engineer and former Marine who once supervised 50 engineers in the design of US Naval Gun & Missile Control Systems

“We look at problems that keep our customers from shredding carpet, pipes, and other products in an efficient and cost-effective way,” explained Sotsky, President and CEO of Republic Machine. “Then we develop, via state-of the art engineering technology, a mechanical way to resolve the problem.”

For example, the nation needs to find a way to divert the five billion pounds of used carpet that is being dumped in U.S. landfills each year. The Environmental Protection Agency challenged the industry to reduce by 2012 the level of used carpet sent to landfills by 20 percent or face severe sanctions. Unfortunately, shredding carpet for recycling was a costly, time-consuming process with the existing shredders at that time. The typical system had to be shut down regularly for maintenance due to overheating as well as to replace machine consumables (shredder cutters and knives) that were rapidly eroded by the abrasive materials in carpeting.

Sotsky and his team of engineers developed the patented modular Split-A-Part shredder with a Zoidal cutting system to address these problems. Compared to similar-sized shredders, the Spit-A-Part shredder increases throughput more than 300 percent and lowers operating costs to less than a half cent per pound. Republic Machine’s unique carpet shredder is but one example of the company’s commitment customer problem solving and product innovation. It’s also made with parts manufactured in the US and sourced locally wherever possible.

“We are very proud to be a U.S. manufacturer that is growing and helping our local economy here in Louisville,” Sotsky says. “While it may be cheaper or easier to purchase components from foreign companies, we put our efforts into finding US-based companies we can work with. Then in turn, we provide innovative US-built solutions to companies who are looking to spend their money wisely in this economy.”

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