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Victaulic Vortex™ Named 2008 Product of the Year

*The world's first water-based inert gas system receives award from readers of
Plant Engineering magazine*

EASTON, PA (Jan. 16, 2009) – Victaulic, the world's leading manufacturer of mechanical pipe joining systems, announced today its Victaulic Vortex Fire Suppression System has earned top honors as the recipient of *Plant Engineering* magazine's "2008 Product of the Year." The annual recognition, now in its 21st year, is the manufacturing industry standard for new product achievement.

"Victaulic is honored to have Vortex recognized as *Plant Engineering's* 2008 Product of the Year," said Anthony Gee, Vortex Product Manager, upon learning the news. "After four years of development, Victaulic's engineering team created a product that conquers the limitations of fire suppression systems currently on the market. The unique patented technology is carefully designed to provide the best capabilities of both water mist and inert gas systems extinguishing fires with very little water and without damaging property or using toxic agents."

"Winners are selected by a vote of qualified *Plant Engineering* subscribers – the people who buy, specify and use these products on a daily basis," said Bob Vavra, editor of *Plant Engineering* magazine. "They are the most qualified people you can find to understand how new products reduce energy costs, ensure safety and improve productivity on the manufacturing plant floor. That's why the *Plant Engineering* Product of the Year award is so highly regarded in the industry."

Ease of design, minimal wetting, scalability and fire suppression features give the Victaulic Vortex system a clear advantage. Applications for this sustainable system include data centers, automotive manufacturing, industrial and power generation facilities.

For more information on the product and for project opportunities call 1-877-9VORTEX or visit www.victaulicvortex.com.

About Victaulic

Founded in 1925, Victaulic is the world's leading producer of mechanical pipe joining systems. Headquartered in Easton, Pa., Victaulic has manufacturing and distribution facilities worldwide and employs more than 3,500 people. The company develops products for a full range of industrial, commercial and institutional piping system applications. For more information, visit www.victaulic.com.

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