

## **Vast-Auto Distribution and Base Automotive Warehousing Join Forces to Strengthen Position in Ontario**

**Toronto, Ontario January 30, 2007** – John Del Vasto, President of Vast-Auto Distribution Ltd. and Mark Mandel, President of Base Automotive Warehousing Ltd. today announced that they have formed a strategic partnership in Ontario through the acquisition of the business operations of Base Automotive.

“This transaction is an important part of the growth strategy of Vast-Auto Distribution in the Ontario market”, said John Del Vasto. “We want to continue to offer parts stores and professional repair shops the tools which will allow them to successfully adapt to the constant evolution of the automotive aftermarket”.

In addition to synergy and increased efficiency made possible by grouping the activities of the two companies, the quality and flexibility of the combined marketing programs will allow them to better serve their existing customers and develop the full potential of the Ontario market in an optimal way.

“Over the course of a number of years, Base Automotive Warehousing has built solid business relationships with its customers in Ontario. This strategic partnership will allow us to improve the service we offer our customers, particularly through Vast-Auto’s technological applications which assure optimal management of operations and inventories in stores and value generating sales and marketing programs to assist them in exploiting growth opportunities”, added Mark Mandel.

This transaction will accelerate the growth of Auto Value associate and corporate part stores and its network of professional repair shops in Eastern Canada. Mark Mandel will continue to administer the business in Ontario and work in close collaboration with John Del Vasto.

### **About Vast-Auto Distribution Ltd.**

Vast-Auto Distribution Ltd. is a leader in the distribution and marketing of automotive parts for the repair of vehicles in Eastern Canada. Operating the banners Auto Value, Mister Muffler and OCTO Auto Service Plus, Vast-Auto offers its customers a complete business solution including a range of quality parts, dynamic marketing programs, training and business management systems.

Vast-Auto Distribution and Base Automotive Warehousing are both members of the North American marketing and buying group “Aftermarket Auto Parts Alliance” which has experienced solid growth through the development of an extensive network of Auto Value Parts Stores and Auto Value Certified Service Centers.

For additional information, please contact:

John Del Vasto, President  
Vast-Auto Distribution Ltd.  
Tel. : (514) 955-2222

Mark Mandel, President  
Base Automotive Warehousing Ltd.  
Tel. : (416) 752-9263

Internet sites: [www.vastauto.com](http://www.vastauto.com) and [www.baseautovalue.com](http://www.baseautovalue.com)