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Tom Gildred Finalist in San Diego 2012 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year®

Independent panel of judges selected finalists who demonstrate excellence and extraordinary success.

SAN DIEGO, May 16, 2012 – Emerald Textiles is proud to announce that Chief Executive Officer, Tom Gildred, was selected as a finalist for the 2012 [Ernst & Young](#) Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

The award recognizes entrepreneurs who demonstrate excellence and extraordinary success in such areas as innovation and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. Award winners will be announced at a special gala on June 13, 2012 at the Hyatt Aventine, La Jolla.

“It is an honor to be named a finalist in [Ernst & Young’s Entrepreneur of the Year Awards](#). I’m glad to be part of this group of highly regarded CEOs who are focused on the success of their businesses and giving back to our community” said Tom Gildred. “I would like to congratulate all the finalists and thank them for their contributions to the city of San Diego and our local economy.”

Operational for less than two years, [Emerald Textiles](#) has quickly become a leading provider of healthcare linen to Southern California. The company serves more than 80% of the hospital beds in San Diego, delivers over 1 million pieces of laundry each week and processes almost 33 million pounds a year. Emerald operates the most innovative and environmentally responsible commercial healthcare

laundry facility in the United States and saves the county of San Diego more than 700,000 therms of natural gas annually and approximately 40,000,000 gallons of water each year at full capacity.

Emerald received the [SDG&E Showcase Award](#) and the [Savings by Design Award](#) in recognition for its advanced design and extreme energy efficiency. Savings by Design is an award created by the California Public Utilities Commission and San Diego Gas & Electric.

About Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year®

Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year is the world's most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs. The unique award makes a difference through the way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential, and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global award of its kind, Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 140 cities in more than 50 countries.

About Ernst & Young

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About Emerald Textiles

Emerald Textiles provides the most environmentally responsible, high quality, linen rental and management solution for the Southern California healthcare industry. Emerald's new, state-of-the-art service center is located in San Diego, California and serves customers including Scripps Health, Sharp HealthCare, UC San Diego Health System, Eisenhower Medical Center, Kaiser San Diego and Kaiser Orange County. Emerald Textiles utilizes the most advanced technology and provides a higher standard of cleanliness, industry compliance and customer satisfaction.

For more information about Emerald Textiles and its services, please visit www.emeraldsd.com.