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## Tom Gildred Announced Finalist in *Vistage 2011 National Member Leadership Awards*

*Emerald Textiles is pleased to announce that chief executive Tom Gildred was honored in Vistage International's annual awards acknowledging bold leaders in categories of Collaboration, Courage, Impact, Innovation, Judgment and Passion.*

SAN DIEGO, December 9, 2011 – Vistage International, the world's leading CEO peer advisory membership organization, announced the winners of its 2011 Member Leadership Awards. The Vistage Member Leadership Awards honor the inspiring business and community achievements of Vistage members across the nation, who best exemplify the organization's values and its six cultural imperatives of Collaboration, Courage, Impact, Innovation, Judgment, and Passion.

Emerald Textiles is proud to announce that our Chief Executive Officer, Tom Gildred, was selected as a finalist in the Courage category. This category is defined by Vistage as a “company leader who demonstrated extraordinary courage, made tough decisions, or took significant marketplace risks to address a business threat or capitalize on an opportunity.”

“I am honored to be recognized with some of the nation’s best leaders” said Tom Gildred. “This year’s Vistage Member Leadership Awards highlight the outstanding achievements of my peers. I’m proud to be considered amongst this group and would like to congratulate all the finalists and winners of these awards.”

Built less than a year ago, Emerald Textiles has quickly become a leading provider of healthcare linen to southern California and now serves many of the major healthcare systems in the area including Sharp HealthCare, Scripps Health, UC San Diego Medical System, Eisenhower Medical Center and Kaiser San Diego. Emerald operates the most 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 an anticipated 40,000,000 gallons of water each year at full capacity.

Emerald Textiles’ San Diego facility is housed in an 111,000 square-foot industrial building and outfitted with the most advanced technology available. Fully compliant with all federal, state and industry regulations, it is the first commercial laundry in San Diego to provide 100-percent physical separation between the soil and clean areas of the plant.

Emerald recently received the SDG&E 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 Vistage International

Founded in 1957, Vistage International, Inc., headquartered in San Diego, California, is the world's leading chief executive organization, serving nearly 15,000 members in 15 countries. Vistage member CEOs participate in Chair-led advisory board peer groups, receive executive coaching, learn from expert speakers, and interact among a global network of CEOs from a broad range of industries. For more information about Vistage, please visit[www.vistage.com](http://www.vistage.com).

Media Contact: Leo Bottary, Vistage International, Inc., 858.509.5854

#### About Emerald Textiles

Emerald Textiles provides the most environmentally responsible, high quality, linen rental and management solutions 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 and Kaiser San Diego. Emerald Textiles utilizes the most advanced technology and provides a higher standard of cleanliness, industry compliance and customer satisfaction.