



**For Immediate Release**

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### **The Golden Arches® Go Platinum in Food Safety**

*Distributors for McDonald's® Sweep All Ten 2005 Silliker Platinum Awards*

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**OAK BROOK, IL (March 14, 2006)** -- McDonald's USA today announced that its U.S. distributors won all 10 of the 2005 Platinum Awards for operational excellence from Silliker, Inc., a leading international auditor of food safety practices.

Silliker presents its prestigious Platinum Award annually to the Top 10 distribution centers and processing facilities in North America that receive the highest scores on a variety of quality and safety criteria. Silliker recently announced its 2005 Distribution Center Platinum Award winners, and this year's Top 10 finishers were all facilities dedicated to serving McDonald's USA.

"This is a tremendous achievement that highlights our commitment to the highest safety and quality at every step of our supply chain process," said J.C. Gonzalez-Mendez, senior vice president, supply chain management, McDonald's North America. "I appreciate their continued partnership and applaud the great work of our winning distribution centers."

Using operational specifications developed by leading food companies and government regulators, Silliker performs thousands of distribution center audits in North America every year. The audits focus on a number of key food safety and quality operational procedures, from receiving and loading practices to sanitation, product temperature control, and overall food safety and quality.

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“It is rare for all the winners to be associated with just one customer,” said Rena Pierami, divisional vice president for Silliker, which is based in Homewood, Illinois. “What this accomplishment says to us is that safety and quality are taken very seriously across the entire McDonald’s distribution system.”

The McDonald’s distribution center recipients of the 2005 Silliker Platinum Awards are:

- Hub One Logistics, Salt Lake City, UT
- M&M Restaurant Supply, Toledo, OH
- Golden State Foods, Lexington, SC
- Golden State Foods, Rochester, NY
- Golden State Foods, Suffolk, VA
- Golden State Foods, Sumner, WA
- Martin Brower, Pompano Beach, FL
- Martin Brower, Kissimmee, FL
- Martin Brower, Salt Lake City, UT
- Metroplex Distributors, Harriman, NY

### **About McDonald’s**

McDonald’s USA, LLC, is the leading foodservice provider in the United States serving a variety of wholesome foods made from quality ingredients to millions of customers every day. More than 80 percent of McDonald’s 13,700 U.S. restaurants are independently owned and operated by local franchisees. For more information on McDonald’s visit [www.mcdonalds.com](http://www.mcdonalds.com).

### **About Silliker**

With 38 labs in 10 countries, Silliker, Inc. provides consulting, testing, auditing, research and training services that help ensure food safety and nutrition worldwide. Silliker is recognized for its expertise in providing recommendations that help identify operational problems, anticipate areas of concern, and institute practical controls associated with food safety and quality risks.

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