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Quick disconnect coupler manufacturer to mark 35 years of good connections

Since its breakthrough introduction of quick disconnect fluid couplers in 1978, Colder Products Company has grown to become the recognized leader in quick disconnect couplings, fittings and connectors for the life sciences, specialty industrial and chemical handling markets.

St. Paul, Minn. – July 29, 2013 – All successful business ventures start with a good idea, and three business partners had a great one: a [quick disconnect fluid coupling](#) for use with plastic tubing that was a simple, intuitive alternative to the traditional industrial ball and sleeve coupling. With its an easy-to-use, push-button thumb latch for [quick connecting](#) and disconnecting, their design was the first of its kind anywhere, and the partners believed it was well suited for use in the medical, industrial and chemical industries.

That was in 1978 when Mike Lyon, Brian Blenkush and Jim Shingler formed a company to design and manufacture fluid couplings. [Colder Products Company](#) — so named because the founders thought St. Paul was colder than just about any place else on earth — is marking its 35th anniversary this month and plans a large celebration with employees and associates.

“One thing that hasn’t changed over 35 years is the way we do business,” said Gary Rychley, president of Colder Products Company (CPC). “Colder started with a spirit of honesty and

integrity with customers, suppliers, employees, distributors and the community, and that's how we still operate today.”

With that philosophy and innovative product design, Colder sales grew consistently. Expanding from traditional brass couplings in to plastic couplings, the company's original molded quick disconnect product, the PLCD17004, was first designed by modeling it in clay and painting it with white correction fluid. From that humble beginning, Colder's product portfolio has grown to more than 10,500 different connection solutions that include couplings and fittings. The company's products are designed to offer easy operation and maintenance. Its couplings include a unique audible “click” that assures the user the connection is complete.

Colder's growth in product offerings has been duplicated by its geographical growth. Today, it is a global company with sales and manufacturing in nine countries and global distributor representation on every continent. Colder's broad range of products can be found in thousands of applications across many life sciences and specialty industrial markets. Its products are used in biopharmaceuticals manufacturing, in medical and laboratory equipment, in the food industries, and for the safe transfer of hazardous chemicals — virtually anywhere flexible tubing needs to be quickly and safely connected and disconnected. In 2005, Colder was acquired by the [Dover Corporation](#), a diversified global manufacturer with annual revenues of more than \$8 billion.

Since introducing the first all-plastic quick disconnect couplings to the market, Colder has amassed more than 60 patents and produced a number of other firsts:

- Introduced the first connectors molded in polycarbonate and polysulfone for life sciences and other high purity applications.

- Introduced [IdentiQuik® Smart Couplings](#) that incorporate radio frequency identification (RFID) to help track, protect and streamline valuable fluids.
- Was among the first companies in the U.S. to be ISO-9001 certified, and today also is ISO-13485 certified for its comprehensive [quality management system](#) for the design and manufacture of [medical devices](#).
- Introduced hybrid connectors that enable the flow of electrical signals as well as liquids and gases.
- Developed the world's smallest non-spill plastic disconnect for tubing as small as 1 mm OD.
- Designed the Steam-Thru® Connector for bioprocessing applications that won *BioProcess International* magazine's Technology of the Decade award.
- Produced the first one-inch-diameter sterile connector for bioprocessing.

“Colder’s growth is the result of dedicated employees, a strong distributor partnering system and a commitment to provide the best in product quality and customer service,” said Rychley. “The company’s original great idea 35 years ago created a business, and its thousands of equally great ideas ever since have helped create an industry, one connection at a time.”

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About Colder Products Company

Colder Products Company is the leading provider of quick disconnect couplings and fittings for the life sciences, specialty industrial and chemical handling markets. For a free catalog or more information, contact: Colder Products Company, 1001 Westgate Drive, St. Paul, MN 55114. Phone: 651-645-0091. Toll-free: 800-444-2474. Fax: 651-645-5404. Web: www.colder.com

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