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NEWS RELEASE

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-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

Great Northern StrataGraph wins two Excellence awards for innovative paperboard packaging

APPLETON, Wis., October 27, 2020 — Each year, the very best paperboard packages across North America are entered in the *North American Paperboard Packaging Competition*. Great Northern StrataGraph, an innovative leader in engineered solutions for retail packaging, is pleased to announce it has received two Excellence Awards — one in the Digital Application category, and the other in the General packaging category.

"We are honored to be recognized among the best in our industry with these awards," commented Bruce Kehler, Great Northern StrataGraph VP – Sales Development. "It speaks to our commitment to provide our customers with custom paperboard packaging solutions that fit their specific needs."

The winning packages stand out with their high-impact graphics, durable structures, and custom features.

- The Chinook Seedery 18-Count Sunflower Seed Retail-Ready Package features vivid color graphics and an eye-catching, die-cut header, which make this package a stand-out retail display. An easy-open, clean-tear perforation within the carton structure was also added for easy product access. In addition, the carton is engineered to protect 18 bags of fragile product throughout the supply chain, and is strong enough, even with the perforation, to eliminate master cases.
- The Worthington Industries Bernzomatic High Heat Torch Kit won the Excellence Award in Digital Application. Because this product uses the same package structure for

multiple SKUs, digital printing is used for efficiency and economy. All package versions are aggregated in the same press run, which eliminates plate costs, significantly reduces pre-plate costs, and eliminates make-readies between copy changes. This allows the customer to add new kits and promotions into the mix without substantial costs in the future.

Also notable, the Bernzomatic Torch Kit package structure incorporates two, large diecut windows that allow shoppers to view the product at retail. The construction and strength of the package also offers flexibility for the retailer to display it on a shelf or hang it on a peg. Additionally, to accommodate Worthington's production line, the carton was designed to efficiently and effectively run on the customer's auto carton erection and loading equipment.

"Great Northern developed winning solutions for these customers though its unique ability to manufacture custom caliper thicknesses for each product and application," commented Kehler. "Our team's expertise of automated machine fulfillment systems and hand-filled package features was also of value to our customers."

Administered and hosted by <u>Paperboard Packaging Council</u> and judged by a jury of packaging professionals, industry experts, and professors, the *North American Paperboard Packaging Competition* is the premier competition for carton manufacturers involved in the concept, design, print, performance, and shelf appeal of paperboard packaging.

To learn more about each of Great Northern StrataGraph's winning packages, visit.

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About Great Northern Corporation:

Great Northern Corporation designs, manufactures and distributes packaging solutions and point-of-sale display programs for industrial, commercial and retail products. Its operations include five business units: Packaging, corrugated packaging for commercial, consumer and custom packaging applications; Instore, temporary, semi-permanent and permanent retail merchandising displays, including assembly and fulfillment services; StrataGraph, high graphic laminated paperboard packaging for consumer goods sold at retail; Laminations, VBoard® edge protection for package protection, including e-commerce, crating and containing support; and Rollguard, protective packaging systems for rolled and cylindrical products, as well as molded pulp for custom packaging applications. Headquartered in Appleton, Wis., Great Northern has more than 1,500 employees, operations in seven states, and has been in business for more than 55 years.