

## Milliken & Company Among 2009 “WORLD’S MOST ETHICAL COMPANIES” Award Recognizes Real and Sustained Ethical Leadership Within Various Industries

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Milliken & Company announced today it has been named one of the 2009 World’s Most Ethical Companies by the Ethisphere Institute for the third consecutive year. Milliken earned a coveted place on the list by going beyond legal minimums, introducing innovative ideas to benefit the public and forcing its competitors to follow suit by consistently upping the ante for what it takes to be an ethical leader.

"This Ethisphere recognition brings honor and validation to our associates who have worked so hard to conduct themselves according to the highest ethical standards," said Joe Salley, president & CEO of Milliken. "Milliken believes that operating with the utmost ethical conduct and integrity is the *personal responsibility* of every associate in the company. Their conduct benefits not only Milliken, but also our customers, communities, associates, and shareholders."

This is the third year Ethisphere, a think-tank dedicated to the creation, advancement and sharing of best practices in business ethics, corporate social responsibility, anti-corruption and sustainability, has published the WME rankings, which appear in Ethisphere Magazine’s Q1 issue. Milliken has been listed all three years.

Through a rigorous, multi-step evaluation process, Ethisphere’s researchers and analysts reviewed more than 10,000 companies in order to determine the finalists.

Milliken has proven to be one of the world leaders in upholding high ethical standards, making it a true standout in its industry, especially as unethical business actions and decisions grab headlines each day," said Alex Brigham, Executive Director of the Ethisphere Institute. "The competition for this year’s World’s Most Ethical Companies was very strong and we applaud Milliken for rising to the top. Milliken recognizes that being ethical is not only the right thing to do, it is also good business practice and leads to more successful and profitable operations."

The methodology for the WME ranking includes reviewing codes of ethics, litigation and regulatory infraction histories; evaluating the investment in innovation and sustainable business practices; looking at activities designed to improve corporate citizenship; studying nominations from senior executives, industry peers, suppliers and customers; and working with consumer action groups for feedback. The 2009 World’s Most Ethical Companies methodology committee, comprised of leading attorneys, government officials, professors and organization leaders, were consulted early on in the 2009 WME process and had the opportunity to review and comment on the methodology used to rate this year’s nominees. Ethisphere researchers further analyze information provided by the companies through questionnaires.

To view the complete list of the 2009 World’s Most Ethical Companies, please visit <http://www.ethisphere.org>.

### **About Milliken & Company**

Milliken is a privately-held, technology-based company dedicated to building a strong culture of integrity, innovation, and excellence, and serves textile, chemical, and floor covering markets. In addition to being identified as one of the World’s Most Ethical Companies for three years by the Ethisphere Institute, Milliken has been named one of the Best Companies to Work For in FORTUNE magazine’s annual top 100 listing for five years. Milliken has also been named one of the 17 Safest Companies in America by *Occupational Hazards Magazine*. <http://www.milliken.com>

**About Ethisphere™ Institute**

The research-based Ethisphere Institute is a leading international think-tank dedicated to the creation, advancement and sharing of best practices in business ethics, corporate social responsibility, anti-corruption and sustainability. The Institute's associated membership group, the Ethisphere Council, is a forum for business ethics that includes more than 200 leading corporations, universities and institutions. The Ethisphere Council is dedicated to the development and advancement of individuals on its membership council through increased efficiency, innovation, tools, mentoring, advice, and unique career opportunities. Ethisphere Magazine, which publishes the globally recognized World's Most Ethical Companies Ranking™, is the quarterly publication of the Institute. More information on the Ethisphere Institute, including ranking projects and membership, can be found at <http://www.ethisphere.org>.

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