

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Tim Arntzen, Port of Kennewick, Executive Director

Tel: (509) 586-1186 wk or (509) 539-7249 cell

Neil Cornia, Ag Engineering & Development Co., Production Manager

Tel: (509) 582-8900 wk

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Port of Kennewick Tenant Named SmartMap Manufacturer of the Year**

Kennewick, Wash.—The Tri-Cities Development Council (TRIDEC) named Ag Engineering and Development Company as SmartMap Manufacturer of the Year. The award was presented to the company’s production manager, Neil Cornia, by Nominating Committee Chair, Melanie Schmitt during a luncheon on October 2, 2008. The Port of Kennewick nominated Ag Engineering and Development Company for the award to recognize their innovative engineering and development of practical farm products.

Executive Director, Tim Arntzen stated, “For the past twenty-five years, Ag Engineering has quietly gone about its business; manufacturing and distributing some of the most sophisticated farm equipment in the world. Along the way, they’ve introduced revolutionary new designs and expanded product offerings to meet the ever-changing demand of an international farming community.” Continued Arntzen, “In fact, this low-profile company, operating quietly in a small corner of Kennewick Washington, is having a tremendous impact on the global stage—their patented equipment improves efficiency and increases plant yields; helping farmers to grow and harvest the products that feed our nation.”

AG Engineering and Development Company was established in 1983 to manufacture, market, and distribute the Dammer Diker®, a patented tillage implement.

- more -

Today, they manufacture and distribute a variety of farming equipment to buyers worldwide from a 27,500 square foot corporate office and manufacturing facility located in the Port of Kennewick's Oak Street Industrial Park. Ag Engineering has been a Port of Kennewick tenant since 1985.

Added Port Commissioner Gene Wagner, "Ag Engineering and Development Company has been a great partner in economic development. The Port of Kennewick congratulates Ag Engineering on 25-years in business, and we applaud their selection as the 2008 SmartMap Expo Manufacturer of the Year."

###

The Port of Kennewick is developing assets to create sustainable family wage jobs, user friendly transportation systems, and quality of life enhancements for visitors and residents of the Port of Kennewick.