

**For Immediate Release**

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**BP Selects ToolsGroup's DPM Inventory Optimization Solution**

*One of the World's Largest Lubricants Companies Looks to ToolsGroup to Reduce Excess Inventory; Reinforcing its Commitment to the Environment*

**BOSTON** — Dec. 18, 2006 – ToolsGroup, a global provider of inventory optimization solutions, announced today that BP (NYSE: BP), one of the world's largest energy companies, will implement ToolsGroup's DPM inventory optimization solution to balance inventory mix within BP Lubricants USA, Inc., its U.S. based lubricants manufacturing and marketing operation.

The solution will re-balance inventory in order to meet strict customer service levels while reducing operational costs such as expediting and transporting goods from one region to another. The solution will include demand modeling, service level optimization and inventory optimization.

"We expect that ToolsGroup's DPM tool will help us ensure we have the right stock in the right place," said Scott Schoenthaler, manager of operations in the supply chain at BP Lubricants USA. "By reducing handling, excess inventory movements and unnecessary logistics cost, we hope to drive a more efficient supply chain. This will reduce wasted effort and unused oil products, which supports our ongoing commitment to protecting the environment."

"Our DPM product will optimize the safety stock buffers in BP's Lubricants USA supply chain to maintain high customer service at reduced costs," said Joseph Shamir, CEO of ToolsGroup. "We share BP Lubricants' focus to create a more efficient supply chain and look forward to working with such an innovative energy company."

**About BP Lubricants USA**

BP Lubricants USA Inc. is a leader in the development and production of high-quality lubricants to automotive service providers and retailers in North America. It also provides specialty lubricants, lubes, and transmission fluids, for boating, motorcycling, racing, and snowmobile customers. BP Lubricants USA is a regional unit of the UK-based lubricants firm owned by BP.

### **About ToolsGroup**

ToolsGroup optimizes inventory in the finished goods supply chain. Its powerful solutions optimize multi-echelon distribution chain inventory, from finished goods assembly to the end consumer, and from strategic network design to daily operations. Recognized by ARC Advisory group as the top inventory optimization firm, ToolsGroup allows supply chain managers to meet demanding service levels, while reducing inventory and operating costs. With more than 100 customers in 29 countries, it is the most experienced inventory optimization software provider worldwide. For more information on ToolsGroup and its solutions, please visit [www.ToolsGroup.com](http://www.ToolsGroup.com).

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