



Innovative Solutions for Material Handling

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RICO AWARDED LIFT TRUCK CONTRACT FOR THE NEXT GENERATION AIRCRAFT CARRIER (CVN-21)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(January 2, 2007 – Medina, Ohio) Northrop Grumman Corporation (NYSE: NOC) has selected BPR/RICO Equipment, Inc. to design and build shipboard certified material handling equipment for the new-generation aircraft carrier, CVN 21.

“We are very excited about this contract award and to be part of the CVN-21 program. It builds on our existing, long-stand, relationship with the U.S. Navy and demonstrates our ability to create strong industry partners. Our engineering team is looking forward to getting started on both the 6,000 lbs and 12,000 lbs vehicles,” said Dave Mueller, President.

“Today’s requirements for shipboard material handling equipment are more complex than ever. The equipment we will be building for this contract is required to pass a rigorous series of First Article Testing. This is some of the most extreme testing ever performed on a lift truck. This reaffirms our commitment to engineering excellence and showcases the durability of our designs.”



CVN-21

Enhancements being incorporated in the CVN 21 class design include flight deck changes resulting in increased sortie rates; improved weapons movement; a redesigned island; a new nuclear power plant; increased electrical power generation capacity; allowance for future technologies and reduced workload for the sailors, translating to a smaller crew size.

Northrop Grumman Newport News, headquartered in Newport News, Va., is the nation’s sole designer, builder and refueler of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and one of only two companies capable of designing and building nuclear-powered submarines. Newport News also provides after-market services for a wide array of naval and commercial vessels. The Newport News sector employs about 19,000 people.

RICO is proud to be fabricators of the world’s finest specialty lift trucks. With more than 125 years of industry experience, RICO has pioneered the design, development and manufacture of specialized lift trucks with capacities ranging from 3,000 to 300,000 lbs. The company’s products are sold to a diverse customer base which includes users in the industrial, military and commercial markets.

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