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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saf-T-Gard International, Inc. Celebrates 90 Years of Bringing Workers Home Safely

Fourth-generation family-owned safety leader marks nine decades of protecting workers through world-class safety solutions backed by industry expertise and unparalleled service

September 30, 2026 – NORTHBROOK, IL – **Saf-T-Gard International, Inc.** proudly celebrates its 90th anniversary in 2026. Since its establishment in 1936, **Saf-T-Gard** has remained committed to one purpose: helping workers return home safely to their families. Today, that same commitment continues through the company's mission: *To provide, based on our experience, expertise and understanding of our customers' requirements, solutions to their needs for industrial safety products and personal protective equipment of the finest world-class quality, appropriate and suitable for the purposes intended, that provide value, safety and security.*

Founded in Chicago as Latex Glove Manufacturing Company by Leo and Lillian Rivkin, the company produced waterproof, rubber-coated cotton gloves. During the 1940s, because of war-time pressures on Chicago industrial plants, the company expanded as an industrial glove distributor, selling gloves to military equipment manufacturers.

As workplace safety regulations evolved throughout the 1960s and 1970s, so did Latex Glove Manufacturing Company. Recognizing the growing need for comprehensive worker protection, the company began supplementing its legacy of **hand protection** with industrial safety products from global suppliers, including **protective eyewear**, **respirators**, **hard hats**, **protective clothing**, **footwear**, and **first aid kits and supplies** to meet OSHA's requirements. In response to this transformation and positioning the company for further growth and better customer service, the company moved to a larger, more modern facility in 1979 in Northbrook, Illinois.

The early 1980s marked another significant milestone with the creation of the **Voltgard® Test Lab**, which was launched to develop the electrical testing and utility industry business by providing the testing of rubber insulating products to complement the sales of new products. Today, more than 40 years later, the **Voltgard® Test Lab** operates as the largest, independent, NAIL4PET-accredited test lab in the United States and performs full-service testing and recertification, at both AC and DC voltages, for more than 12 different categories of rubber goods – all

to applicable ASTM standards. Additional Voltgard® advantages include **the Original Rubber Goods Change-Out Program®** – the industry's first structured, professionally-managed program designed to simplify the rubber goods testing and change-out process by minimizing out-of-service time and allowing workers to focus on other priorities while remaining safe and productive. Having experienced significant business growth, Latex Glove Manufacturing Company moved to an even larger facility in Northbrook. The new building was nearly double in size with plenty of room for even greater expansion.

In 1989, reflecting its transformation into a comprehensive safety solutions provider, Latex Glove Manufacturing Company officially became **Saf-T-Gard International, Inc.** – a name that has since become synonymous with quality, expertise, and workplace safety. Today, **Saf-T-Gard** offers tens of thousands of products spanning the full range of industrial personal protective equipment and **facility safety** from the world's leading manufacturers alongside its expanding family of proprietary "**GARD**" brands. **Saf-T-Gard** serves customers in all 50 states and in more than 50 countries around the world. The company also proudly serves U.S. federal agencies through its awarded U.S. **General Services Administration (GSA) Contract**.

Experience has always been one of **Saf-T-Gard's** greatest competitive advantages. The company's professional staff has more than 250 years of combined industry experience and includes nationally recognized safety leaders and technical experts. Among its team are a past president and Hall of Fame member of the National Industrial Glove Distributors Association (NIGDA), a past president of the Safety Equipment Distributors Association (SEDA), a voting member of ASTM International Committees F18 on Electrical Protective Equipment for Workers and F23 on Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment, members of the International Safety Equipment Association's (ISEA) Hand Protection Task Group and numerous Qualified Safety Sales Professionals (QSSP), SEE-certified experts, NFPA 70E-trained professionals, and fall protection specialists.

"As we celebrate our 90th anniversary, we're incredibly grateful to our customers, employees, suppliers, and partners who have been part of our journey," said Richard Rivkin, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of **Saf-T-Gard International, Inc.** "While we're proud of our history, what matters most is the trust our customers continue to place in us every day. For four generations, our family has understood that worker safety extends far beyond the workplace – it impacts families, communities, and lives. Every employee is someone's spouse, parent, child, or friend. That is why we have always believed our responsibility goes beyond supplying products. We provide expertise, training, and comprehensive safety solutions that help ensure workers return home safely at the end of every shift. As we begin our tenth decade, we're committed to maintaining that mission with the same dedication, integrity, and customer-first philosophy that has guided **Saf-T-Gard** since 1936."

About Saf-T-Gard International, Inc.

Located in Northbrook, Illinois, **Saf-T-Gard International, Inc.** is a privately held family-owned and operated global supplier of industrial safety products. Founded in 1936 as Latex Glove Manufacturing Company, **Saf-T-Gard** quickly evolved into a predominant manufacturer, distributor, importer, and exporter of personal protective

equipment, environmental safety, **facility safety**, **first aid**, public safety, and **electrical safety**. Today, **Saf-T-Gard** carries on the tradition that was started more than 90 years ago: Bringing customers the products, training, and service they need to keep employees safe in the workplace. **Saf-T-Gard** is an active member of the National Safety Council (NSC), ASTM International (ASTM), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), Affiliated Distributors (AD), and the International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA) committees responsible for the development of industry standards for protective equipment. **Saf-T-Gard** provides thousands of solutions from recognized brand names in addition to its renowned line of proprietary brands. **Saf-T-Gard** actively operates the **Voltgard® Test Lab**, one of the largest, independent, NAIL4PET-accredited test labs for rubber insulating products in the United States. To learn more, please visit **www.saftgard.com** or call 1-800-548-GARD (4273).

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