

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### CENTURY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS RECEIVES SUPPLY CHAIN DISTINCTION AWARD

December 9, 2011

Century Distribution Systems, Inc., along with Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores® and Acuitive Solutions, are the proud recipients of the 2011 Supply Chain Distinction Award for “Best Collaborative Practice”. The award was presented on December 6 in Dallas, Texas at the Supply Chain Distinction Award North America’s annual gala.

According to this year’s judging panel, the Century/Jo-Ann/Acuitive entry “stood out due to complexity and mitigation backed up with the specifics.” The panel added, “They took a unique approach to improving ocean audit capabilities through the integration of patent pending technology into the systems of its existing third party logistics provider. The end results were a seamless, transparent and highly accurate automated prepayment audit process and significantly improved operations due to greater shipping and delivery certainty.”

The Best Collaborative Practice Award recognizes a company or partnership for achieving supply chain excellence through collaborative frameworks. The award honors companies that form partnerships that go beyond standard contract terms, involve shared risk and reward, and result in substantive commercial benefit.

Century, Jo-Ann, and Acuitive formed their partnership in early 2007. Bryan Schuster, Jo-Ann’s Manager, Global Logistics, says, “The objective of the collaboration was to run all our freight bills through a pre-audit process to verify the charges prior to remittance.” Acuitive maintains Jo-Ann’s contracted rates and terms in its system. Schuster explains, “The auditing process initiates with Century feeding ASN/856 transactions from their web-based platform, VMS®, to Acuitive. Acuitive then receives corresponding freight invoices via EDI 310 feeds from our carriers. Invoice anomalies are identified systematically and flagged for non-payment pending follow up with the carrier. Validated freight charges flow from Acuitive to VMS®. Our Accounts Payable team then runs a VMS® report summarizing validated carrier charges in order to process payment.”

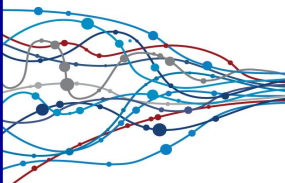
The end result of this collaborative process is Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores® remits payment of Acuitive/Century-validated charges exclusively. No payments are made against unaudited freight bills. The program helps Jo-Ann increase margins by reducing freight and administrative costs.

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