



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**burton + BURTON™ named 2008 Georgia Family Business of the Year**

*Bogart, GA (March 13, 2008)*

The Cox Family Enterprise Center, based at the Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University, recently announced **burton + BURTON™ as a winner of the 2008 Georgia Family Business of the Year Award.**

“Since 1991, the Cox Family Enterprise Center has honored the best in Georgia-based family businesses,” says Executive Director Joe Astrachan, Ph.D. “We are proud to once again recognize a great group of winners and finalists who have withstood the test of time, flourished due to their strong values and savvy business sense and made an impact as community leaders and innovators.”

**Maxine Burton**, president and owner said, “It is such a joy to be surrounded by family, working daily along side my husband, my mother, and our children. All of their efforts and sacrifices over the years, along with the tireless work of our over 350 employees, have contributed to the success we enjoy today.”

The Georgia Family Business of the Year Awards ceremony will be held Monday, May 19 at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta. This year’s keynote speaker will be Gustavo Zerbino, Director of Cibeles S.A. and a survivor of the 1974 plane crash in the Andes Mountains on which the book and movie *Alive* are based.

**Bob Burton**, burton + BURTON’s Chief Executive Officer said, “To be recognized as a family, and as an organization, is indeed an honor and a humbling experience. I, my wife Maxine, and our children, are all Georgia natives. To be recognized as one of Georgia’s top family businesses is a highlight in our company’s 26 year history.” The company currently employs eight family members covering three generations.

Founded in 1987, the Cox Family Enterprise Center is dedicated to the research, education, and recognition of family businesses. Named one of the country’s leading Family Business Centers by *Fortune Small Business* magazine, the Center supports and guides family businesses through its innovative programming, outreach, and scientific research.

*burton + BURTON™, a family owned and operated business based in Bogart, Georgia, is one of the largest suppliers of balloons and coordinating gift products in the world. Founded in 1982, the company offers over 15,000 products including latex and foil balloons, ribbon, floral supplies, plush, ceramics, and baskets.*

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