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THE COPPER CLUB, INC. TO HONOR REA MAGNET WIRE'S JIM VANN & LS-NIKKO'S C.M. KOO WITH PRESTIGIOUS ANKH AWARD

New York, NY (May 2, 2013) – [The Copper Club, Inc.](#) announces their selection of Copper Man of the Year, honoring **Jim Vann**, Chairman, Rea Magnet Wire and South Korea's **C. M. Koo**, Chairman, LS-Nikko with the prestigious Ankh Award. Jim Vann will be honored in recognition of his role in building Rea into a leading company in the magnet wire industry as well his outstanding service to the copper and electrical manufacturing industries. South Korea's **C.M. Koo**, Chairman, LS-Nikko, will also receive the Ankh Award for his role in developing a world class company in the smelting and refining segment of the industry.

The awards will be presented at The Copper Club's Annual Dinner, on June 5, 2013, at The Plaza Hotel in New York City. Attendees at this special event include industry leaders from the mining, refining and smelting, fabricating, manufacturing and financial services sectors from around the world. The prestigious Ankh Award has been bestowed every year since 1962 to professionals who have made extraordinary contributions to the copper industry.

The Copper Club will also announce the 2013 recipients of their Educational Grants Program, which assists exceptional students in preparing for careers in fields related to maintenance and expansion of the copper industry. Each grant is up to \$10,000, and is awarded to students who demonstrate academic excellence and financial need. To date, The Copper Club has provided nearly \$1million in scholarships to students to help ensure the future of copper.

Among the many accomplishments in Mr. Vann's illustrious career, is the leveraged buyout Mr. Vann led in 1986 of Rea Magnet Wire Company from Alcoa; then in 2006, Mr. Vann with other Rea Magnet Wire Company executives completed the acquisition of Phelps Dodge Magnet Wire Company. This transaction transformed Rea in to the largest manufacturer of wire for electric motors and transformers in North America. In 2000 under Jim's leadership Rea joined together with Tongling Jingda Special Magnet Wire Co. LTD. to establish several joint venture magnet wire companies which today hold the premier position in the magnet wire industry in China.

Mr. Koo's distinguished career includes his accomplishments in leading LS-Nikko to become more competitive in terms of quality, innovation and capacity, now making it the third largest copper smelter world-wide, in terms of production capacity. Throughout Mr. Koo's tenure, LS-Nikko has expanded its business scope and strategy in becoming an integrated player in the copper industry. Mr. Koo is dedicated to the environment; working along with the ICA and Korean companies to promote these new uses of copper, such as antimicrobial copper for health care to copper alloy mesh cages for aquaculture.

The Copper Club's Chairman, **Arthur Miele**, said of the Copper Club Board of Directors selection of Jim Vann to receive the 2013 Ankh Award, "I have known Jim Vann professionally and personally for more than 25 years. His excellence in leadership, contribution to the industry and commitment to the community are exactly the attributes for which the Ankh award was created more than 50 years ago."

Patrick Cussen, Chairman of the board of CESCO said of C.M. Koo's selection, "I am pleased that the Copper Club has selected C.M. Koo as one of this year's recipients of the prestigious Ankh Award. C.M. has been instrumental in building LS-Nikko into a world leader in the smelting and refining segment of the industry."

To purchase tickets for this event, visit www.copperclub.org

About The Copper Club

The Copper Club was formed in 1944 to convene all participants in the copper industry. It is comprised of copper producers, fabricators, refiners, dealers, traders and merchants. The Copper Club seeks to promote the interests of the copper industry. By honoring those who have forged pathways in the industry and paving new paths for students working toward careers in the industry, The Copper Club ensures the past, present and future of copper.

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