

THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION

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Selim Bassoul Named Recipient of YPO International Legacy Honor

Chicago, Ill. (December 1, 2005) — Selim A. Bassoul, Chairman and CEO of the Middleby Corporation (NASDAQ: MIDD), has been named recipient of the Young Presidents' Organization (YPO) International Legacy Award. Mr. Bassoul received the prestigious award at a YPO event on November 7, with former President Bill Clinton in attendance. Bassoul is a member of the Windy City Chapter of YPO.

The recipient of the YPO International Legacy Award is an individual who has overcome great obstacles to achieve success; someone who has accomplished something extraordinary in the course of his lifetime; and a person who has been a source of motivation and inspiration for others.

“Selim was chosen from our 10,000 YPO members who are chief executives in 180 chapters around the world. He was one of only 15 global recipients honored with this prestigious award in 2005,” said Brent B. Johnson, YPO Windy City Chapter Chairman and member of the YPO International Board of Directors. “In business as well as in his personal life, Selim Bassoul is a mentor to many and a friend to all.”

Since Selim Bassoul became CEO of the Middleby Corporation in 2000, the company's revenues have tripled, margins have grown and the company has been recognized as one of the best performing by *Forbes*, *Fortune* and *BusinessWeek* magazines. He is also an international philanthropist, giving of his time and resources to hospitals and charities around the world.

“I am inspired every day by the many people who touched my life,” said Selim Bassoul upon receiving the award. “My family, friends and business associates also share in this award, as they have been my ongoing motivation.”

