



LatchTool PowerCylinder™ Named a Top 100 Product of the Year by Design News Magazine

The LatchTool PowerCylinder™, a mechanical force amplifier that turns pounds into tons, was selected by Design News Magazine as one of the best 100 products of the year in its March 7th issue.

Colorado Springs, CO (PRWEB) March 30, 2005 -- The LatchTool PowerCylinder™, a mechanical force amplifier that turns pounds into tons, was selected by Design News Magazine as one of the best 100 products of the year in its March 7th issue. Design News is a Reed Business Information publication serving design engineers. This group of engineers defines the \$900 million plus U.S. Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) market, a group that produces just about every new product that hits the market.

As an OEM component, engineers now have the ability with the PowerCylinder to add the features of hydraulic power to their product designs without the weight, size, complexity and cost of a hydraulic system.

LatchTool predicts their PowerCylinder will find use as a power boost for hand and power tools and the ability to add strength to prosthetic limbs and a variety of uses where conventional hydraulic power is just too heavy and expensive. The National Fluid Power Association has petitioned the National Science Foundation on behalf of its members to fund \$18 million in research at select engineering colleges to develop compact and efficient fluid power technology.

LatchTool CEO Bob McPherson says "Clearly, the fluid power industry recognizes that its technology cannot satisfy the insatiable demand for smaller, simpler and less expensive components and products. There is a huge gap between the force and displacement fluid power can deliver and that delivered by electrically driven systems. But the electrical systems are catching up. The PowerCylinder spans this gap, effectively offering fluid power at the end of a wire. Here the company sees a plethora of applications such as automobile breaking, power steering, robotics, automation and aviation.

"A hundred years ago, the Wright Brothers took their first flight and look where we've ended up. The LatchTool PowerCylinder has just begun, but it won't take a hundred years to see how big an impact the PowerCylinder is about to make."

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