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## THE 49TH ANNUAL NATIONAL FARM MACHINERY SHOW BRINGS THOUSANDS TO LOUISVILLE

**LOUISVILLE, KY (Feb. 19, 2014)** – Although snowfall and winter weather swept through the region during the show, the 2014 National Farm Machinery Show was one of the top ten most attended shows in the 49-year history of the event. 294,360 visitors visited the nation's largest indoor farm show during the four-day run at the Kentucky Exposition Center, helping to generate a \$21.5 million annual economic impact across the community and for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Attendance was down from last year's second highest total of 307,906.

"We are the gathering place for the latest technologies, equipment and education for the agriculture industry," said Clifford "Rip" Rippetoe, President and CEO of the Kentucky State Fair Board. "The world's agricultural economy is what drives farmers and companies across the nation and we are proud to be a part of it."

Rippetoe added that the staff and exhibitors are already planning and booking space for next year's show, which will be its 50th.

Nearly 870 exhibitors from around the world, including England, Canada, Italy and China, filled the 1.2 million square feet of exhibit space at the Kentucky Exposition Center during the National Farm Machinery Show, Feb. 12 - 15, 2014. The show combines both educational seminars about existing and anticipated market trends with thousands of agricultural products and services on display that exemplify the prominence of the industry. In recent years, the show includes a variety of technological products and services from GPS to unmanned aerial vehicles.

Nearly all of the show's exhibit space was sold out one year in advance with a lengthy waiting list at the start of the show.

In conjunction with the National Farm Machinery Show, the 46th Championship Tractor Pull continued to draw a cheering fan base to the nation's oldest indoor tractor pull. More than 66,000 people watched the pulls nightly in Freedom Hall.

The National Farm Machinery Show is scheduled for Feb. 11-14, 2015 in Louisville at the Kentucky Exposition Center.

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#### **About the National Farm Machinery Show**

The National Farm Machinery Show, the nation's largest indoor farm show, features the agricultural industry's most comprehensive display of equipment, services and technology. Held annually at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, Kentucky, the show attracts 300,000 attendees from the United States and around the world. The Championship Tractor Pull, the country's oldest indoor tractor pull, accompanies the show to provide an added element of entertainment and competition. The National Farm Machinery Show occupies over one million square feet of contiguous exhibit space, contributes \$19 million in economic impact to the Commonwealth each year, and is owned and produced by the Kentucky State Fair Board.