

Green Apple Cleaners selected as 'One of America's Best Cleaners 2009'

San Francisco, CA -- February 18 -- At an annual awards ceremony recognizing the best dry cleaners in the country, **Green Apple Cleaners of New York City**, was selected as one of America's Best Cleaners for 2009. The ceremony was held at the J.W. Marriott in the historic Union Square section of San Francisco.

America's Best Cleaners (ABC) is a national organization that strives to locate and recognize the best dry-cleaning establishments in major metropolitan areas throughout the United States. Only 27 dry cleaners were certified in the United States by America's Best Cleaners for 2009. Another 15 are currently under review. Last year forty dry cleaners were certified for 2008.

Selection is contingent upon adherence to strict criteria. The certification is valid for one year, whereby the cleaners are re-tested annually for compliance with standards, including monthly quality tests and quarterly mystery shopping reports, testing for customer service and quality. ABC has recently expanded into World's Best Cleaners (WBC), which acts as both liaison and expert for third party interests, from the high-end garment industry, to NPR Radio, to MR Magazine, and the Wall Street Journal.

"It is an honor to be chosen as one of America's Best Cleaners and we are very proud of our staff for putting forth such a great effort," said **David Kistner of Green Apple Cleaners**. "We pride ourselves on delivering only the highest quality, with superior customer service, and we're glad to be recognized by this top-notch organization."

Criteria for selection are now based on standards determined in conjunction with the Hohenstein Institutes, which has partnerships from Hugo Boss to the Taiwanese Textile Research Institute, and is accredited under ISO 17025. Prospective selections are site-inspected by certified ABC representatives to determine if minimum requirements of cleanliness, machinery equipment, stain removal and finishing quality are met. Coupled with monthly fabric tests to evaluate chemical usage, it is the most stringent certification in the dry cleaning industry.

Founder and Executive Director of America's Best Cleaners Ed D'Elicio commended **Green Apple Cleaners** on its cutting-edge technology, its dedication to green processes and stressed the importance of such attributes in the selection process, an essential component in sustaining ABC's relationship with the fashion and garment industry, which has taken notice of the accreditation organization's ability to act as a liaison between high-end clothiers, cleaners and clients.

"The analogy to the automobile industry is not altogether inappropriate," said D'Elicio. "Just as Mercedes recommends that authorized dealerships service their products, the manufacturers of \$3000 suits want to offer their clients the same level of security and convenience when it comes to care and maintenance. Our recognition provides that security, and our international network provides that convenience."

You can visit America's Best Cleaners Website at www.americasbestcleaners.com