



Press Release

## Winter-Proof and Fit for Spring

### MTD gives service tips for maintaining and caring for your gardening tools in winter

Saarbrücken, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Fog, drizzle, wind – that's the weather report. And a glance out of the window brings clarity: the growing season is over, your garden has gone into hibernation. Time to care for your gardening tools so they survive the long rest period. They'll need to do their duty in the coming spring. And you should take care of those tools now, so you don't have a rude awakening when spring comes along. MTD, one of the leading manufacturers of motorized gardening tools, gives you tips for correct care and maintenance.

### Leave it to a professional

Actually, there are two rules of thumb. First: stick to the care and storage instructions in the operating manual. And second: ask a repair shop of your trust.

Michael Wicke, Head of Customer Service for Europe at MTD, explains: "We take our responsibility to our customers seriously and actively inform them about the importance of professional winter inspections, because they maintain the tool's value and operability. Only a certified specialist has the necessary know-how and equipment for comprehensive and expert servicing. We want our customer's to enjoy their gardening tools for as long as possible".

Servicing takes place regularly and comprises a long list of tests such as for example, oil changes, the valve play, spark plugs and air filter are checked. In addition, the blades and the complete deck are thoroughly examined.



Before the long winter-typical rest or storage period starts, a fuel stabilizer should be added to the fuel. This stabilizer keeps the fuel “fresh”, which means that it prevents the fuel from mixing with water or settling. With the stabilizer you can store the fuel for up to 12 months.

Don't forget that your tool's battery also needs special care during storage. You should remove the battery and attach it to a automatic battery charger. The fluid level must be checked and when necessary, corrected with distilled water.

**Those who want to store their tools for winter themselves, should take the following tips to heart:**

The key to a long life is care and maintenance and that's why cleanliness is essential. Before cleaning your tool thoroughly and freeing it from grass, leaves and dirt, please pull out the spark plug connector. Rotting grass damages the paint and thus, leads to corrosion. After cleaning your tool with water, dry it thoroughly and make sure that no moisture remains – rust doesn't sleep. Avoid using steam and high-pressure cleaners. The high water pressure can cause damage to painted and electrical parts, sealing elements and bearings. Please read the operating manual carefully. In it you will find these tips and more important information.

Store the tool in a clean and dry location and oil all movable parts. If you have to store the tool outside, cover it with a tarp, but make sure not to use airtight materials, because eventual moisture cannot escape.

If you follow our tips, nothing can stand in the way of a successful start in spring.





### **About MTD Products AG**

MTD Products AG in Saarbrücken-Bübingen is the European headquarters of MTD Products Inc., which is based in Cleveland, Ohio (USA). It was established after the takeover of the tradition-rich German manufacturer GUTBROD by MTD in 1996. MTD has more than 20 production and sales locations worldwide, employing about 10.000 people. Its market share places it among the top-ten manufacturers of powered garden equipment worldwide.

In Europe, MTD has its own sales locations for Germany, France, Belgium, Austria, Denmark, Hungary, Sweden, Switzerland and Poland. All other European markets are serviced via sales partners and importers.

The MTD portfolio in Europe comprises the brands MTD, Bolens, GUTBROD, Yard-Man and Cub Cadet. Its product range includes electric and petrol lawn mowers, verticutters, lawn tractors, compact tractors, ride-on mowers, shredders, trimmers, garden tillers, snow throwers, quads and chain saws. The European product plants are located in Saarbrücken-Bübingen and in Nemesvamos (Hungary).

