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Tacony adds Tornado to commercial floor division

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Tacony Corp. purchased Tornado Industries Inc. of Chicago for an undisclosed amount, Tacony said Monday.

Fenton, Mo.-based Tacony is an importing, distribution and manufacturing company in four business industries: sewing, home floor care, commercial floor care, and ceiling fans and lighting.

With this acquisition, Tacony's commercial floor care brands now include Tornado, Truvox, Cimex, Powr-Flite and CFR.

Tornado will continue to operate in Chicago as a subsidiary of Tacony, with Michael Schaffer retaining his title as CEO and president, and Gary Cirone his title of executive vice president.

Tornado offers a line of both hard and soft floor care equipment including vacuums, carpet extraction equipment, floor machines, sweepers, automatic scrubbers, critical filtration vacuums, and pressure washers.

This transaction is Tacony's second major acquisition in five weeks. The company said Jan. 3 that it purchased England-based Truvox International.

Tacony Corp. is one of the largest privately held companies in the St. Louis area and reported 2006 revenue of \$163.5 million. The family owned firm, founded in 1946, employs a total of 605 people companywide, including 190 local employees.

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