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For Immediate Release
May 8, 2006

LOEB CANADA INC. FINED \$75,000 FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATION

OTTAWA, Ont. –Loeb Canada Inc., an Ottawa-based grocery store chain, was fined \$75,000 today for a violation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act that resulted in serious injuries to a worker at a distribution centre.

On July 12, 2004, a truck driver was using an electric-powered lifting device to unload pallets containing a load of goods when the unit went off the loading dock through an open door of the loading bay. At the time of the incident the driver had been attempting to manoeuvre the lifting device when the driver somehow reversed the unit off the dock. The driver landed on the ground and suffered a broken bone in the left ankle as well as scrapes to the left forearm. The driver was employed by Thomson National Personnel. A Ministry of Labour investigation found the driver had never received any formal training on the use of the lifting device. The incident occurred in a warehouse at Loeb Canada Inc.'s distribution centre at 1184 Old Innes Road in Ottawa.

Loeb Canada Inc. pleaded guilty, as an employer, to failing to ensure the lifting device was only operated by a competent person or by a worker accompanied and being instructed by a competent person, as required by Section 52(1)(a) of the Regulations for Industrial Establishments. This was contrary to Section 25(1)(c) of the act.

The fine was imposed by Justice of the Peace Louissette Girault of the Ontario Court of Justice in Ottawa. In addition, the court imposed a 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge, as required by the Provincial Offences Act. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

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Contacts:

Belinda Sutton
Ministry of Labour
416-326-7405

Melanie Shulman
Crown Counsel
Legal Services Branch
Ministry of Labour
416-212-1878

Court Information at a Glance

Location: Ontario Court of Justice
100 Constellation Crescent, Courtroom 102
Ottawa, Ontario

Judge: Justice of the Peace Louise Girault

Date / Time: May 8, 2006, 9 a.m.

Defendant: Loeb Canada Inc.

Matter: Occupational Health & Safety

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