

**Addison County Chamber of Commerce**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Addison County Chamber of Commerce**  
**Announces May Business of the Month**

Middlebury, VT - Darcy Tarte, Chair of the Addison County Chamber of Commerce's Publicity and Promotions Committee is pleased to announce that the May 2007 Business of the Month is Champlain Valley Equipment located in Middlebury.

Champlain Valley Equipment has been part of the community for 37 years, opened in 1970 by Russell Carpenter. Their first location was near Danforth Pewterers on Seymour Street in Middlebury. The business moved to their present location on Exchange Street in 1989, and has expanded greatly since then. They currently have 27 employees at their Middlebury location, many of which have been with the business for over 10 years.

Russell's son Brian Carpenter is now general manager of Champlain Valley Equipment, while Russell is still very much involved with the day to day aspects of the business.

Champlain Valley Equipment sells everything from chainsaws and trimmers to 305 horsepower tractors from brands such as Kubota, New Holland, Case IH, Woods and Stihl. They offer a full parts and service department in addition to their sales department. They serve customers from all over Vermont and the Eastern Champlain Valley of New York.

To better serve their customers, Champlain Valley Equipment opened a facility in St. Albans in March of 2005. They were doing more and more business in Franklin County and opening a facility in the northern part of Vermont seemed like a logical step. In addition to carrying the same brands as the Middlebury location, the St. Albans location also sells Polaris ATV's, snowmobiles and rangers. The St. Albans location now has 17 employees.

Champlain Valley Equipment has now grown to become the largest dealer of New Holland and Case IH in New England and has been a six time winner of the New Holland Presidents Prestige Award, which is based on dealer sales and service excellence. Just this year, they were awarded the 2006 Dealership of the Year Award from Farm Equipment magazine. They were chosen by a panel of renowned farm equipment experts for their customer service, employee involvement and financial performance during 2005. Nearly 60 dealerships from across North America were nominated for the award.

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As far as future plans are concerned, Champlain Valley Equipment hopes to further diversify their offerings so they can become a one stop shop for the community. They also hope to expand their customer base to include customers from other regions.

Champlain Valley Equipment would like to say thank you to all of their loyal customers and express how appreciative they are to their great customers in the community. They hope to serve you for many more years!

The Addison County Chamber of Commerce is proud to have Champlain Valley Equipment as members and congratulates them on being chosen as the May Businesses of the Month!

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