

**Jøtul North America Wood Stove earns Hearth product industry's top Design Award.
Jøtul C 350 wood stove and the Jøtul GI 550 DV gas insert are finalists.**

GORHAM, Maine – “Hearth & Home Magazine” recently presented Jøtul North America with its Vesta Award for the Jøtul F 370 wood stove. The Jøtul F 370 wood stove was judged best among all entries in the Wood Stoves and Inserts category. The Vesta Awards were presented March 10, 2006, during the 2006 Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Expo held in Salt Lake City.

The Vesta Awards rank annually among the hearth products industry's top recognitions. Vesta Award recipients are judged for their innovation in product design and/or technology. Only new products created for sale in the year 2006 are eligible. Vesta Award judging is conducted by a thirty member panel selected from the ranks of retailers, distributors, designers, laboratory scientists, affiliate leaders and other hearth products industry members. “Hearth & Home Magazine” is the creator of the Vesta Awards.

“It is a real honor to earn this recognition. Everyone at Jøtul – here with us in Maine and around the world -- works incredibly hard to develop innovative products that keep the Jøtul brand strong,” said President of Jøtul North America Bret Watson.

In addition to the winning Jøtul F 370 wood stove, the Jøtul C 350 wood stove was a Vesta Award finalist in the Wood Stove and Insert category, and the Jøtul GI 550 DV Gas Insert was a finalist in the Gas Stoves and Insert category. Watson added, “To earn one Vesta Award and have two finalists is just amazing, the industry is filled with incredible new products and Jøtul is leading the way.”

About Jøtul North America

Jøtul North America was founded in Maine in 1980 and today employs over 70 people. The parent company, Jøtul AS, was founded in Norway in 1853 and Jøtul stoves have been imported in the U.S. since the turn of the century. In the mid-1980s Jøtul North America was a pioneer in the gas hearth products market in the U.S. with its freestanding gas room heater. In 1998, Jøtul North America's Portland, Maine facility began the final assembly of the product line of gas room heaters distributed by the parent company. In addition, Jøtul North America is responsible for the design and manufacturing of several gas products. Jøtul North America sells over 35,000 wood and gas units annually. The company recently moved to an expanded facility in the Gorham Industrial Park.

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