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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Commercial Vehicle Market Begins Recovery in “Slow-Growth” Economy

COLUMBUS, IN – Following three consecutive years of double-digit production declines, including over 40 percent declines in 2009, the medium and heavy duty commercial vehicle markets are at the beginning of a three-year period of steady growth, according to ACT Research Co. (ACT).

In the latest release of the *North American Commercial Vehicle Outlook*, ACT indicates heavy-duty (Class 8) truck production reached a low point of 25 thousand in the second quarter, down 57 percent from the prior year. ACT predicts quarterly production rates will begin a slow climb in the third quarter, although year-over-year declines will continue until the first quarter of 2010. Medium-duty truck (Classes 5-7) production, down 53 percent to 22 thousand in the second quarter, also will begin a rebound in the third quarter, but at a slower rate, largely due to continued softness in the construction industry.

“We believe the economy emerged from recession in the third quarter and expect gradual strengthening through 2010,” said Kenny Vieth, partner and senior analyst with ACT Research. “However, growth is likely to be slower than in a traditional recovery as consumers and financial institutions pare debt; baby-boomers increase their savings; government stimulus slows; and longer-term, higher taxes, inflation or both impact consumption and investment,” added Vieth.

ACT is the recognized leading publisher of commercial vehicle (CV) industry data, market analysis and forecasting services for the North American market. ACT’s CV services are used by all major North American truck and trailer manufacturers and their suppliers, as well as the banking and investment community. For more information on ACT, please go to our web site at <http://www.actresearch.net>.

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