

## **Egyptian Mummies Ensclosed in New LuciteLux<sup>™</sup> Museum Grade Home**

**MEMPHIS, Tenn., Tuesday, June 8, 2010** – Lucite International's LuciteLux museum grade cast acrylic sheet has been fabricated into display cases serving as the new homes for two ancient Egyptian mummies on display at the University of Memphis' (Tenn.) Art Museum.

Ibui, a mummy of the First Intermediate Period (c. 2150-2000 BC), and Irtw-irw, a mummy of the Ptolemaic Period (c. 300 BC) now have new, improved display cases "to die for" that were recently unveiled at the museum. The environmentally secure cases made of LuciteLux museum grade clear cast acrylic sheet with ultraviolet (UV) protection that filters out 98 percent of harmful ultraviolet light were installed in the Egyptian Gallery in mid-March.

"We are so thrilled with the new cases because visitors can see the coffins and two mummies so much better, and the cases protect the artifacts from the deteriorating effects of dust, humidity and ultraviolet light," said Patricia Podzorski, Ph.D., curator of Egyptian Art at the University of Memphis.

According to Chris Robinson, sheet business manager for Lucite International, "Museum grade crystal clear Lucite acrylic enhances art and artifacts by showcasing objects with true clarity, letting detail and beauty shine through."

Dr. Lorelei Corcoran, director of the Institute of Egyptian Art and Archaeology, welcomed the invited guests to the exhibit ribbon cutting, recognizing Lucite and other sponsors. Lenore Torres, marketing assistant, accepted an award of recognition from the university on behalf of Lucite, telling the crowd of interested onlookers, "We are excited to play a role in this important exhibit here in our hometown of Memphis. Not only does this exhibit showcase the fashion and function of our products, but through these new display cases, we are able to help preserve and protect these priceless artifacts."

Richard Ranta, Ph.D., dean of the College of Communications and Fine Arts, thanked the sponsors of the new display cases and opened the event by explaining some of the history of the artifacts. He told the audience, "The coffin and mummy of the priestess of Hathor, Ibui, came to Memphis in 1976 along with 43 other Egyptian antiquities purchased from the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. This material formed the core of the collection, which now encompasses some 1,400 objects." He added that the mummy and brightly painted coffin of Irtw-irw entered the museum collection in 1986. "Irtw-irw, who died in his early 30s, probably lived in the area of Akhmim in Middle Egypt some 2,300 years ago."

### **About Lucite International**

Lucite International is a global leader in the design, development and manufacture of acrylic-based products including LuciteLux<sup>™</sup> cast acrylic sheet – the driving force behind two of the world's best-known material brands, Lucite<sup>®</sup> and Perspex<sup>®</sup> from Lucite<sup>®</sup>.