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**For Immediate Release**



## **AeroVironment Successfully Implements Building-Integrated Wind Turbine System at Staples Fulfillment Center**

### **Small, Modular *Architectural Wind* Ties in with Building's Utility Grid to Provide Renewable Energy with Minimal Structural Impact**

**MONROVIA, Calif., July 18, 2006** – AeroVironment, Inc. (AV), a pioneer in advanced energy system technologies, announced today it has successfully installed a small, modular wind turbine system at a Staples fulfillment center in Ontario, Calif. The building-integrated installation is a beta test of AV's Architectural Wind, representing a new concept in wind energy systems in which the turbines are actually tied in with the structure's utility grid; the fulfillment center is a 220,000-square-foot facility operated by Staples North American Delivery unit to serve business customers.

"Staples is constantly pursuing new and innovative solutions that enable us to meet and increase our commitment to renewable energy in our electricity consumption," said Mark Buckley, vice president of environmental affairs at Staples, Inc. "With AeroVironment's Architectural Wind systems, we'll be demonstrating clean energy at work while adding value to our buildings."

Commented Joe Edwards, vice president of AeroVironment, Inc.: “Staples is a leader in renewable energy, and AeroVironment is pleased to support them in this commendable endeavor. We are especially pleased that our Architectural Wind system – from both an engineering and an aesthetic standpoint – will complement this important new environmental initiative that Staples is undertaking.”

A small new modular and architecturally enhancing wind turbine system, Architectural Wind provides an attractive, kinetic, clean energy-generating technology for use in both urban and suburban environments. It is designed for quick and easy installation onto new or existing tilt-up or pre-cast buildings – with little or no structural impact – and offers color-matched module enclosures to ensure visual integration with the structure.

Architectural Wind is designed to hold fast to a structure, providing a positive anchor to the parapet wall that requires no support tower and does not penetrate the roof membrane. Each module weighs approximately 125 pounds, not including interconnection and safety components housed in or near the electrical room, and measures about 4 x 4 feet; its six blades are each 24 inches long. AV’s unique design allows the turbines to rotate at low wind speeds and to withstand winds of up to 110 miles per hour; moreover, the modules include both front and rear screens to maximize bird safety.

Working alone or in tandem with other renewable-energy technologies, Architectural Wind provides commercial property owners with a sleek and adaptable system that yields low installed cost-per-kilowatt, as compared to photovoltaics.

### **About AeroVironment**

AeroVironment uses emerging technologies to provide its customers with advanced solutions that increase their competitive effectiveness by enabling them to overcome limitations affecting productivity, safety and efficiency. AV is the world’s largest supplier of small unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and fast charge systems for electric vehicles. Raven, Dragon Eye, Pointer, Swift, Puma, and Wasp small UASs are used extensively by the Department of Defense and, increasingly, by other U.S. government agencies and allied military forces. Its PosiCharge™ fast charge systems have eliminated battery changing for electric material handling vehicle fleets in factories, airports and distribution centers throughout North America. Since 1977, AV has maintained a continuous presence in wind power technology, conducting more than 250 sponsored projects and investing in, developing, owning and managing wind farms. AV is headquartered in Monrovia, Calif.; email [info@avinc.com](mailto:info@avinc.com); website [www.avinc.com](http://www.avinc.com).

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