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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brother International Corporation Earns Nod from Esteemed Fashion Industry Expert

PQ1500S Makes the Cut

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. — Deemed the machine that belongs in the sewing room of every serious quilter and seamstress, the PQ1500S from Brother International Corporation was put to the test by Francesa Sterlacci, former Chairperson of New York's Fashion Institute of Technology and current instructor at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. Touting one of the fastest sewing speeds in the market and the ability to stitch a variety of fabrics with precision, the PQ1500S passed a rigorous fashion critique ultimately earning the prestigious approval of Sterlacci.

"As a professor of fashion design for the past 18 years, I have been looking for a home sewing machine that could handle garment weight leather material. I finally found what I was looking for in the Brother PQ1500S," said Sterlacci. "This machine operates with industrial machine strength but is much easier to operate. Its walking foot attachment, as well as other attachments, allows the sewer to go from heavyweight materials to the finest chiffons with ease. I highly recommend this machine to students, teachers, beginners and even experienced home sewers. It's portable, powerful and a breeze to operate."

The fashion industry is renowned for meticulous reviews and candid criticism, making Brother extremely proud to earn the approval of Sterlacci. As one of the fastest home sewing machines on the market, the PQ1500S sews at speeds up to 1,500 stitches per minute. Maneuvering large projects is easy on its oversized bed, which is arguably one of the most generous sewing areas in the industry. The PQ1500S allows pucker free stitching on almost any fabric, which fashion designers like Sterlacci consider an imperative feature. As an additional benefit, designers will enjoy its unique fabric separator feature, which helps to join different fabric weights (such as lightweight lining and velvet) without puckering. The automatic thread cutter instantly resets both top and bottom threads when touched, making it easy to achieve a complete project with minimal setup and adjusting.

In addition to its optimal capabilities for clothing designers, the PQ1500S is ideal for quilting projects because of its four feed dog settings for maximum fabric control. The oversized extension table provides easy access to the vertical bobbin while allowing quilting enthusiasts the ability to create quilts of all sizes. With a 3-point quick reference stitch guide including a pin feed, the pin drops automatically when the presser foot is lifted for enhanced machine intuitive functionality.

"The popularity behind *Project Runway* has really driven interest among aspiring designers and the Brother brand. Francesa Sterlacci's approval is a true testament to the capabilities of the PQ1500S and Brother's continued ambition to deliver high quality, innovative products that fashion designers can feel confident using," said Dean F. Shulman, senior vice president and head of Brother's home appliance division. "We are excited that Sterlacci enjoyed the PQ1500S enough to recommend it to students, teachers and enthusiasts of all skill levels."

Brother is the Official Sewing and Embroidery Licensee of *Project Runway* and is a leading manufacturer of home sewing and embroidery products. To learn more about the PQ1500S and Brother's extensive line of machines and accessories, visit www.brother.com.

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About Brother International Corporation

Brother International Corporation has earned its reputation as a leading supplier of innovative products for the home sewing enthusiast. Through a growing network of sewing machine dealers and retail outlets nationwide, Brother offers a full line of home sewing machines, from basic to top-of-the-line sewing and embroidery machines. The company is recognized for its high-quality, state-of-the-art machines and accessories, offering ease of use and flexibility at affordable prices.

Brother is a wholly owned subsidiary of Brother Industries Ltd. With worldwide sales approaching \$5 billion, this global manufacturer was started almost 100 years ago by sewing fanatics.

Brother offers a diversified product line that includes fax machines, Multi-Function Center[®] machines, P-touch[®] Labeling Systems and both color and black & white laser printers for home, office and industry.

Bridgewater, New Jersey is the corporate headquarters for Brother in the Americas, from Canada to South America. It has fully integrated sales, marketing services, manufacturing, research and development capabilities located in the U.S. In addition to its headquarters in Bridgewater, New Jersey, Brother has facilities in California, Illinois, Massachusetts and Tennessee, as well as subsidiaries in Ohio, Canada, Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Mexico. For more information, you can visit the web site at www.brother.com.

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