

## **NJSSA Honors Russ Leahy with the Bob Stader Lifetime Achievement Award**

*Butler, NJ, March 2, 2004*--Russell (Russ) Patrick Leahy of The Russ Leahy Company will be honored with the first ever Bob Stader Lifetime Achievement Award by The New Jersey Sanitary Supply Association (NJSSA) at Supply Line 2004. The presentation will take place at the President's Reception at The Borgata Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on Wednesday, May 5, 2004 from 6:00p.m.- 8:00p.m. Leahy is a charter member of NJSSA, and served on the executive board of the association for 10 years, and as a past treasurer.

The Bob Stader Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes veteran professionals who have supported and promoted the Janitorial/Sanitary Supply industry and the New Jersey Sanitary Supply Association, enhancing them by making the industry better. NJSSA President Hank Josephs (Spruce Industries) will present the award to a representative of Russ Leahy's family on his behalf.

"Russ Leahy is one of the associations's founding fathers. He dedicated many years of volunteer time to the growth and betterment of the NJSSA. He played an integral role in getting us where we are today and it is fitting that we honor him," says Josephs. "He also helped so many people in the industry with their businesses and their professional growth."

Russ Leahy of Lincroft, New Jersey is a native of Worcester, Massachusetts. He graduated from Worcester Junior College and was an Army veteran of WWII who earned a battlefield commission of Second Lieutenant while serving in Germany. He was later promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant with the 100<sup>th</sup> Division Co. B 399th Infantry. He was decorated with the Silver Star for combat gallantry.

Leahy began his career with the Colgate Palmolive Company as a salesman and later a sales supervisor. After working for the B.T. Babbitt Company, Russ decided to go out on his own. In 1967, Russ founded the Russ Leahy Company, Inc., a manufacturer's representative firm. Russ represented some of the industry's finest companies and developed an outstanding reputation for honesty and integrity. Leahy retired from his company in 1997.

NJSSA's Supply Line 2004 Eastern Exhibition takes place May 6-7, 2004 at the Atlantic City Convention Center. For more information call (973)283-1400 or visit [www.njssa.net](http://www.njssa.net).