

## Media Release

February 2010

### Arthritis Australia and Arthritis New Zealand gives selected FISKARS gardening products the thumbs up



Several of FISKARS' prized garden tools have received the Ease of Use certification from Arthritis Australia and Arthritis New Zealand, just in time for the key pruning season in June.

The program, which is supported by independent testing at Georgia Tech Research Institute in Atlanta, USA, has recognised the innovation of the FISKARS PowerGear™ range that allows people living with arthritis to comfortably use the gardening tools that have been awarded the Ease of Use certification.

The FISKARS products that have been accredited are –

- Two of FISKARS PowerGear™ Hand Pruners
- One of FISKARS PowerGear™ Loppers.
- One of FISKARS PowerGear™ Hedge Shears.

Passed through rigorous scientific and consumer testing, the FISKARS PowerGear™ range employs ergonomic design features to amplify cutting power. Boasting a unique gearing mechanism that multiplies cutting force, comfortable handles to reduce pressure on joints, and on the pruners, even a handle that rolls to follow the hand's natural clenching motion – the certified products allow people living with arthritis to perform pruning tasks they would have otherwise been unable to complete.

Arthritis Australia CEO, Ainslie Cahill explained, "The accredited PowerGear™ products are lightweight and have a geared design that reduces the level of effort required to cut for people living with arthritis."

"The Ease of Use accreditation seeks to highlight user-friendly products that allow these people to manage day-to-day tasks more readily, and pursue favourite pastimes such as gardening," Ainslie said.

FISKARS Marketing Manager, Nic Naes, is proud that a number of the FISKARS products have received the accreditation.

"Throughout our 360 year history, FISKARS has been synonymous with user-friendly and innovative products. The Ease of Use certification is testimony that the FISKARS PowerGear™ technology truly makes gardening easier and more enjoyable. People living with arthritis can be assured that the Ease of Use certified FISKARS products have been designed with their needs in mind."

**For further information and images, please contact Haystac:**

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