

## Media Center

### AND THE BEAT GOES ON!

#### *Termites Eliminated from Melbourne Municipal Band Practice Facility with **Termidor®** termiticide-insecticide*

Termites were only inches away from devouring thousands of pages from the largest collection of sheet music in the Southeastern United States. In February 2006, pest professionals from Slug-A-Bug Pest Control stepped in to save these musical masterpieces.

The Melbourne Municipal Band practice facility in Melbourne, Florida is home to the city's awarding-winning band. Established in 1965, the group consists of 110 members. Together, they have toured four European countries, and in 1987, had the honor to play for President Ronald Reagan.

Termites are responsible for more than \$700 million in damage and control costs to Floridians each year. Florida is chiefly affected by subterranean and drywood termites. Formosan termites, also found in Florida, are the most destructive of the subterranean class because they form large colonies and consume wood at a significantly faster rate than any other type of termite found in the country.

"When we became aware of the threat subterranean termites posed to the practice space of the Melbourne Municipal Band, there was no question that we had to step in and help," said John Gagnon, Termite Supervisor for Slug-A-Bug. "We refused to have the band forced from their home by hungry termites."



*A Slug-A-Bug pest professional finds more than a handful of termites.*

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 **BASF**  
The Chemical Company



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### ***Termidor® termiticide-insecticide Saves Building***

After initial contact from Judy Good, Director and President of the Melbourne Municipal Band, Slug-A-Bug Senior Termite Inspector Dave Laster thoroughly inspected the band's practice space. He found extensive termite damage, and in one closet in particular, uncovered Eastern Subterranean termite mud tubes the size of his wrists and fingers. Termites build mud tubes from soil, wood particles and other materials in order to travel from the ground to a wood source, while avoiding the light.

"It was the most extensive infestation that we had ever seen," noted Laster. "In some places, the tubes formed intricate highway systems that joined the colony to other parts of the room, including areas above the roof."

After three hours of assessing and mapping out the situation, Slug-A-Bug knew without hesitation which termite product would best eradicate the problem. Together, Slug-A-Bug and BASF – The Chemical Company, the manufacturer of **Termidor**, donated their time, service and product to treat the building with America's #1 termite defense product. Treating a six-by-six inch trench around the perimeter of the structure and the interiors of many walls, the treatment took eight hours and three termite technicians to complete. Regular inspections of the building by Slug-A-Bug representatives will ensure that the structure remains a termite-free practice space for the local musicians.

### ***Drumming Up a Grand Thank You***

To show the band's gratitude for the services, time and treatment from Slug-A-Bug and BASF, Judy Good delivered a speech to approximately 5,000 onlookers at the band's next performance, naming both companies as heroes. On the day of the termite treatment, the Melbourne Municipal Band Brass Ensemble held a special performance while the technicians worked.