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The North American Association of Floor Covering Distributors Announces 38th Annual Meeting Keynotes

CHICAGO – The North American Association of Floor Covering Distributors (NAFCD) is pleased to announce annual meeting keynote speakers including Rob “Waldo” Waldman, a combat-decorated Air Force fighter pilot, and Jason Bader, managing partner of The Distribution Team, Inc. These speakers will kick off the 38th Annual Meeting and Distributor Marketplace, September 22-24, 2009 in Glendale, Arizona. This premier networking and education event is a must-attend for manufacturers and distributors alike in the floor covering business.

Keynote Waldman will speak about why in business and in life, you should never fly solo. Waldman, your “wingman,” will challenge attendees to evaluate how important trust is in their organization; the importance of courageous leadership; and will show how focused, productive and mission-ready employees can impact your bottom line.

Another keynote speaker, Jason Bader, will help distributor and manufacturer professionals to understand the needs of the floor covering retailer, by providing results from NAFCD’s recent research study on relationships between distributors and their customers. This interactive session will give industry professionals a chance to share best practices, and to discuss industry challenges and solutions. A panel including retailers and distributors will also discuss the results of the study and offer their insights.

NAFCD’s opening session will feature a panel of four of the industry’s leading manufacturers, including MAPEI Americas President and CEO Rainer Blair; Mannington Mills President and CEO Tom Davis; Shaw Industries President Randy Merritt; Armstrong World Industries Vice President, and CEO of Armstrong North American Floor Products, Frank J. Ready. Breakout session speakers include the Institute for Trend Research Senior Analyst and Economist Alan Beaulieu; Chase Kepner, former director of sales training at J.J. Haines & Company; National

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Wood Flooring Association Executive Director Ed Korczak and Anderson Hardwood Floors CEO and President Don Finkel, and many more. In addition to the roundtable discussions, industry leader panel and over nine speakers and presenters, the NAFCD 2009 Fall University Series will offer a day and a half workshop on the sales process, sales strategy and how important credit and sales work in tandem with one another.

In addition to the annual meeting, NAFCD is also conducting the fourth annual Distributor Marketplace, a face-to-face environment designed to make buying and selling easier and more efficient for manufacturers and distributors. The NAFCD Annual Meeting and Distributor Marketplace is an avenue of opportunity that fosters the exchange of ideas and solutions among industry peers. Currently, it is the only event of its kind in the industry.

Manufacturers and distributors in the floor covering industry can't afford to miss this opportunity. Registration is now live. Visit www.nafcd.org to learn more about the meeting and early-bird pricing, including an early-bird group rate. The meeting is open to all NAFCD members, prospective NAFCD members and attendees' guest.

For more information about NAFCD, contact NAFCD Headquarters, 401 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611-4267; Phone: 312.321.6836; E-mail: info@nafcd.org; or visit the NAFCD Web site at www.nafcd.org.

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NAFCD is a national, not-for-profit trade association serving distributors and suppliers of floor covering materials and related products. Its purpose is to enable wholesale floor covering distributors to be the most efficient, professional and profitable vehicle for bringing their suppliers' product to market resulting in the highest degree of dealer satisfaction.