



For Immediate Release

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Thriving in Changing Times to be Focus at 2008 NBMDA Convention *Registration is open for Convention in Washington DC*

September 2, 2008 (Chicago) – The North American Building Material Distribution Association (NBMDA) announces that registration is open for its 2008 Annual Convention & Tabletop Business Session, November 12-13. The program, consisting of both guest speakers and peer-to-peer discussion sessions, was carefully selected to address the changes and challenges occurring in the marketplace to help attendees gain new insights and learning on how best to adapt their business model for these conditions.

Just a week after the US Presidential Election, the two-day event will bring together both distributors and manufactures to address the current economic challenges impacting the industry due to the recent decline in the housing market. “Challenging business conditions coupled with the upcoming political changes make attending the annual NBMDA event all the more critical for our members as well as all distribution business owners,” said Kevin Gammonley, executive vice president of NBMDA.

Attendees will hear from Senior Washington Correspondent & Political Columnist for *Newsweek*, Howard Fineman on the business impact of the 2008 Election, as well as hear from award-winning corporate executive Bob Prosen on how to lead a company through unfavorable economic conditions. Those on hand will also get a preview of the future as economist Brian Beaulieu of the Institute for Trend Research provides a 2009 Economic Forecast for the Building Material Industry.

Returning again is the popular Tabletop Business Session to be held on Thursday, which allows senior executives to have open, in-depth discussions with suppliers and potential trading partners. This serves as the most cost-effective format with the largest ROI and allows participants to meet one another all in one location.

“It is vitally important for distributors to enhance their communication with manufacturers during these times as a means to jointly attack the challenge and exploit the opportunities. The NBMDA event is an ideal environment for this type of planning.” said Gammonley.

Registration is currently open and can be made directly at www.nbmda.org. To take advantage of the special registration and housing discounts, attendees should act before September 30, 2008. The event is being held at the Gaylord Hotel and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland

For more information visit www.nbmda.org or contact NBMDA Headquarters at 888.747.7862.

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NBMDA is a multi-segment trade association representing the leading wholesale distributors of specialty building products and woodworking materials. Membership segments represent distributors and manufacturers that serve the independent building material, and kitchen and bath dealer, regional and national home centers, as well as those that serve production companies involved in cabinetry, architectural woodwork, stock woodwork, store fixtures, solid surface fabricating, general and specialty woodworking industries. Distributor members operate from more than nine hundred distribution centers throughout the U.S. and Canada. The association's collective purchasing power exceeds \$25 billion. Founded in 1952, NBMDA's mission is to develop and promote the effectiveness of distribution processes to improve member profitability and growth.