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Industry Veterans Don Mitchell and Lamont Hope Join Pulaski Furniture as President and Vice President of Operations

(HIGH POINT, N.C.) – Home Meridian International, the parent company of Pulaski Furniture and SLF (Samuel Lawrence Furniture), announced today that furniture industry veteran Don Mitchell has accepted the position of president of Pulaski Furniture, after resigning from the board of directors of La-Z-Boy.

“We are very pleased to have Don join us at Pulaski Furniture,” said George Revington, president and CEO of Home Meridian International. “He has a long history of leading aggressive marketing companies and has always had a great eye for product.”

As president of Pulaski Furniture, Mitchell will report directly to Revington and have responsibility for the sales and marketing of Pulaski, which is Home Meridian International’s largest strategic marketing unit.

“The furniture industry is my passion and I’m very excited to be actively involved in it again. Home Meridian International has the best, low cost, global business model and a clear vision for growth. I look forward to working with the talented team they have assembled and helping take this company to the next level,” said Mitchell.

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In addition to serving on the board of La-Z-Boy, Mitchell was president of La-Z-Boy's case goods division, which included American of Martinsville, American Drew, Lea, Hammery, Kincaid, Pennsylvania House, and Pilliod. Prior to his tenure with LADD, Mitchell was president of Universal Furniture US in the late 1990s, when it was growing rapidly. During his career, Mitchell was responsible for some of the most successful licensing agreements in the industry, including Alexander Julian, Jessica McClintock, Bob Mackey, and many others.

Pulaski Furniture is also welcoming Lamont Hope, who has joined the company as vice president of operations. Hope will be responsible for all supply chain, distribution, and manufacturing functions in the US. He will report to Doug Townsend, senior vice president of operations US for Home Meridian International.

"Lamont brings a long history of success and experience in manufacturing, distribution, sourcing and information systems to Pulaski and Home Meridian International. He will be instrumental in benchmarking and integrating SLF's and Pulaski's global operating systems," said Revington.

Hope most recently served as senior vice president of procurement at Berklene Benchcraft. In prior positions, Hope was president of La-Z-Boy Global, president of Lea Industries, and was vice president/general manager of Universal's bedroom manufacturing division in Morristown, TN, which, at the time, employed more than 1,100 people.

"For some time now, I have admired both the people at Home Meridian and their business model," said Hope. "Their global strategy is the right approach at the right time and I am glad to be part of this organization."

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Home Meridian International announced other organizational changes today. Doug Townsend has assumed the position of senior vice president of operations US for the parent company. Townsend will be responsible for the operations of all four of Home Meridian International's strategic marketing units, which include Pulaski Furniture Corporation, SLF, Creations, and Solutions.

Revington also announced that Sekar Sundararajan will be senior vice president of business development for Home Meridian International, with responsibility for the development and integration of the company's core global business systems and the creation of new strategic marketing units.

"Home Meridian is committed to the constant improvement of our business model and the recruitment and promotion of the best people, allowing us to provide our customers with outstanding products and service," Revington added.

Home Meridian International, formed in the September 1, 2006 merger of SLF and Pulaski Furniture, is a top 20 furniture manufacturer and importer, based on Furniture Today's Top 25 list. The strategic marketing units of Home Meridian International include Pulaski Furniture, SLF (Samuel Lawrence Furniture), Solutions (mass merchants division), and Creations (a new juvenile division).

Virginia-based Pulaski Furniture is known for leadership in design and integrated marketing. Pulaski's portfolio of licensed and proprietary brands includes Antiques Roadshow™ Collection; Casa Cristina, based on the Latin Media sensation, Cristina Saralegui; Accentrics, a full line accent program; Keepsakes, a full line curio program; and Keepsakes Home, a recently-launched series of promotional bedrooms. Debuting at the fall furniture Market in High Point will be a newly licensed Build-A-Bear Workshop® HOME Collection.

SLF, with offices in Phoenix, AZ; High Point, NC; and Dongguan City, China, is a global, multi-divisional, design, sourcing and marketing company that is a leader in shipping full and mixed containers from inventory in China directly to major retailers in the United States.

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