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WSA SHOW DELIVERS WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES AND EXCITEMENT, FROM HIGH-LEVEL EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS TO CELEBRITY BRANDS TO THE WORLD'S HOTTEST FOOTWEAR AND ACCESSORIES STYLES

February 10-13, 2006, Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (February 9, 2006) -- The WSA Show is more than the world's largest footwear show, taking place in Las Vegas, February 10-13 (<u>www.wsashow.com</u>). It is a gathering of retailers large and small, manufacturers both global and emerging, and media from around the world. The focus is on footwear and accessories including men's, women's, children's, athletic, comfort and luxury. It's a rich assortment of educational offerings. And, it's a fun calendar of social and entertainment events.

Jessica Simpson knows that the WSA Show is the place to be when building a footwear line. Ms. Simpson, who is bringing her Fall 2006 footwear line to market, will join more than 1,600 exhibitors and thousands of buyers from the U.S. and abroad at the WSA Show. Beyoncé, Mischa Barton, Diddy, Nelly and Gwen Stefani are other celebrities whose footwear lines will be exhibited at the WSA Show.

Educational offerings

CEOs from adidas, Brown Shoe, Foot Locker and Wolverine World Wide will share industry insights during an all-day business panel, the Global Strategic Footwear Forum, taking place on Saturday, February 11.

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WSA Feb. 2006 Opens for Business

Marshal Cohen, chief industry analyst, The NPD Group, Killick Datta, chairman and CEO of Global Brand Marketing Inc. (Diesel, XOXO, Nautica and Mecca), Ron Fromm, CEO of Brown Shoe, Herbert Hainer, chairman and CEO of adidas, Mark Lemond, president and CEO, Show Carnival, Jay Levitt, former president and CEO of May Merchandising Company, Tim O'Donovan, CEO, Wolverine World Wide, Matt Serra, CEO of Foot Locker, Diane Sullivan, president, Brown Shoe and Robert B. Tucker, Sr., president and CEO, The Shoe Show and Joe Wood, president, Famous Footwear, will join for the first time at the show's Global Strategic Footwear Forum co-hosted by John Shanley, the footwear industry's top financial analyst. A full schedule of educational seminars throughout the show offers valuable information and advice for buyers and manufacturers, alike.

<u>The latest styles</u>

Exhibitors from Europe, Asia, Latin America and the U.S. will fill the Sands Expo Center and Las Vegas Convention Center-South with hundreds of thousands of shoes, boots and other footwear, embracing the latest retro trends, faux fur detailing, rich beautiful fabrics and "bling" on everything from kids' shoes to stacked heels.

"The WSA Show has been experiencing a growing international presence over the past few years," noted Diane Stone, chief operating officer for the WSA show. "We are putting a concerted effort into attracting manufacturers who are ready to do business in the U.S., using the gateway our show provides. On the buyer side, the WSA Show is the only place that buyers from outside the U.S. can preview under one roof what's next from the leading global brands of U.S. origin."

Handbags are taking on more importance in today's wardrobes, with buyers seeing the latest styles ranging from "hobo" to elegant small purses. Handbag designers are exhibiting at the WSA Show and The Collections at WSA, hoping to attract the estimated tens of thousands of buyers from retail stores ranging from corner shoe stores to multi-unit department stores.

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WSA Feb. 2006 Opens for Business

On six floors of the Venetian Hotel, luxury high-end footwear and accessories designers will display styles appearing on runways throughout the globe as the fall season is previewed at The Collections at WSA. (Visit <u>www.thecollectionsatwsa.com</u> for The Collections at WSA exhibitors' list.)

After Hours Entertainment

The first night of the show, Friday, February 10, Earth Wind & Fire and Chicago will entertain the WSA Show's attendees and exhibitors. Large exhibitors will host parties of their own, including HH Brown's private party and concert with the Gin Blossoms and the Rembrandts performing. The Shoetini cocktail party to announce the winners of the Glass Slipper awards for best exhibits at The Collections at WSA is another highlight, held Sunday night, February 12.

"The show just keeps getting more electrifying," said Ms. Stone. "Not only is this the must-attend footwear event for buyers and manufacturers around the world, it's also an opportunity to see amazing styles, network with industry leaders, and share ideas. There are educational seminars for just about everyone, and enough hospitality and entertainment to make it a fabulous visit. And it's Las Vegas. It's going to be a great show."

About the World Shoe Association (WSA)

Twice a year in Las Vegas, WSA simultaneously hosts the WSA Show, the world's largest and most comprehensive marketplace for the footwear industry, and The Collections at WSA, the world's largest luxury footwear event. Featuring over 6,000 brands and over 34,000 participants, these combined events offer an unmatched opportunity for manufacturers to showcase their products and for buyers to discover the latest trends. The WSA Show is the *must-attend* event for anyone involved in the footwear and accessories industry. For more information, please visit <u>www.wsashow.com</u> or www.thecollectionsatwsa.com.

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