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**WAL-MART, LEVIS, WEST MARINE, ITT INDUSTRIES AND SCHNEIDER LOGISTICS
HONORED AT VICS COLLABORATIVE COMMERCE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

Paul Singer Receives Career Achievement Award

Chicago, IL, — The **Annual VICS Collaborative Commerce Achievement Awards** were presented on Monday, May 22 during a private ceremony held in conjunction with the Voluntary Interindustry Commerce Solutions (VICS) Association Board Dinner. The Awards are presented by the VICS Board of Directors each year as part of the Value Chain Vision Conference, held May 21-24, 2006 at McCormick Place, Chicago, IL, USA. The Value Chain Vision Conference is co-located with Retail Systems® 2006 Conference & Exposition.

The 2006 VICS Collaborative Commerce Achievement Awards honor outstanding examples of strategic thinking and leadership, as well as GS1 US and VICS standards utilization, that have resulted in more effective supply chain partnerships. The awards recognize efforts and company-wide dedication to customer satisfaction that have made continuous improvements to the supply chain.

2006 VICS Collaborative Commerce Achievement Awards Winners

BEST ON RETAIL SIDE

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. for the #1 worldwide retailer's Supplier Self Testing Portal, a Web application that provides Trading Partners the ability to test their own EDI documents with Wal-Mart. This self service approach has reduced the number of phone calls and emails to the EDI Supplier Support Desk by allowing trading partners to do much of their own work on their own schedules

BEST ON SUPPLY SIDE

The Levi Strauss & Company for the apparel manufacturer and retailer's RFID solution designed by LS Mexico for franchisee's stores that helped improve accuracy of inventory, timeliness of replenishment and efficiency of in-store processes.

BEST IN VICS CPFR® IMPLEMENTATION

West Marine along with ITT Industries for a CPFR program that includes the order forecasting, which has improved on time shipments from 10% to 80%, improved in-stocks from 91% to 97%, and has increased average order value by 75%.

BEST THIRD PARTY PROVIDER

Schneider Logistics for the deployment of Sumit Global View, a highly scalable and secure supply chain visibility platform that provides Schneider and their customers with a real time view, down to the item level, of critical global information and activities within their supply chain operation.

ROGER MILLIKEN CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The recipient of the Roger Milken Career Achievement Award is Paul Singer, former CIO, Target Corporation. Paul was responsible for technology solutions and support across all business areas at Target. Paul is one of the most forward thinking executives in the retail industry. He was one of the first business people to move into the CIO position in the mid-90s. His insight and knowledge about merchandising has played a large role in establishing Target as one of the leading innovators in inventory planning, replenishment, and management. He has been an indefatigable supporter of truly industry-wide standards that improve business for manufacturers as well as retailers.

He has initiated numerous debates on beneficial industry initiatives. One of the first examples of Paul's prescience about standards was when he delivered a memorable lecture at Retail Systems '94 in Washington, D.C. on the topic of "EDI and the Missing Link of Quick Response". In that lecture, Paul offered a vision for developing an industry decision support tool so suppliers could have a common view of product movement for all their customers

Early in his retail career, he worked at Kmart and May Company. Paul joined Target in 1984 as a Business Analyst and went on to hold several positions in Merchandising and Merchandise Planning, before moving to Target Technology Services in 1994. Paul became Chief Information Officer and Senior Vice President of Target Technology Services in 2000.

"Paul Singer has played a leadership role in making a big difference in the lives of retailers and consumer goods companies. Now he is playing a leadership role in making a big difference in the lives of orphans around the world," said Joe Andraski, President & CEO of VICS, referring to Singer's membership on the board of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, which is the largest bi-partisan organization in Congress.

"Paul is working to make adoption less bureaucratic, more reliable, more transparent, and less intimidating for potential adoptive parents. Paul has committed himself to helping the 50 million orphans in the world get adopted safely by loving parents."

The Value Chain Vision Conference is part of Retail Systems 2006, which offers four days of educational and networking opportunities for all professionals in the extended retail industry, including retailers, manufacturers, distributors, IT vendors, 3PLs and warehousing professionals. This is the only event of the year that brings together all segments of the retail, CPG, supply chain and apparel industries to discuss internal and external IT and business process issues.

Retail Systems 2006 is organized by Retail Systems Alert Group. The Value Chain Vision Conference was developed in cooperation with the Voluntary Interindustry Commerce Solutions (VICS) Association.

About VICS

The Voluntary Interindustry Commerce Solutions (VICS) Association has enabled companies in the retail and consumer-focused industries to eliminate billions of dollars of waste and delay. By creating voluntary guidelines, often referred to as "standards," VICS has created new best practices that ultimately lead to lower costs and better availability of products for consumers. VICS' volunteer members improve the flow of products and information throughout retailing and the consumer-focused industries that supply retail. The Association provides leadership and an environment in which executives can make a difference in their industry, their company performance—and their personal commitment to make the world work a little bit better. VICS members

help define the next best practices in the industries and thus anticipate and optimize business processes and costs. Additional information can be found at www.vics.org.

About Retail Systems Alert Group

Retail Systems Alert Group is a global research and events company that has followed the advancements of technology applications within the retail, CPG, and apparel industries for more than a decade. The company provides analysis and insight about a broad spectrum of issues and trends through publications, conferences and expositions, Internet services, special reports, and customized research. Retail Systems Alert Group has organized the annual Retail Systems Conference & Exposition, America's leading Retail IT and Supply Chain Event for more than 15 years. Retail Systems 2005 will be held May 24-26, at McCormick Place, Chicago, IL. For more information, visit www.retailsystems.com.

Retail Systems Alert Group is a trade name of Retail Systems B2B LLC, a Proximus Company.

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