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CONTACT:
Carla Mata-Sprinkles 336.803.1334 or
carla@creativecommunicationservices.com

*John Thomas Furniture Positions Sprinkles and Promotes Brendle
to Support Growth of Select Line*

Thomasville, N.C. — John Thomas Furniture, the casual dining division of Whitewood Inds., has positioned Bryan Sprinkles and promoted Jamie Brendle to new sales and marketing positions to support the rapid growth of its Select line of custom-dining options.

Sprinkles, formerly sales and marketing manager of John Thomas Furniture, has been positioned as National Sales Manager of the division. In this more clearly defined appointment, he will focus on expanding John Thomas Furniture's nationwide retail distribution network. Sprinkles joined Whitewood Industries in a sales and marketing role in 2006.

Brendle, who joined Whitewood Industries in 2010 as marketing coordinator, has been promoted to marketing administrator for John Thomas Furniture and Whitewood. In this new position, Brendle will serve as project manager for all of John Thomas' marketing initiatives, including catalogs, videos and the company's recently enhanced website.

"In recent years, as our Select program has expanded, my energies have been increasingly focused on sales," said Sprinkles. "At the same time, we've been offering more and more marketing support to retailers. It was time to split up these two functions so they each receive our full attention."

The new management structure will enable Sprinkles to better support retailers on the sales side with product development, training and other services, he said. And, in her new role, Brendle will be able to focus more time on developing creative merchandising and point-of-purchase materials "to help stores better promote our

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products and capture more consumer attention," said Sprinkles.

John Thomas launched the Select casual dining program in 2005. Select offers 36 paint/stain options on a variety of solid-wood products available for delivery in four to six weeks.

In the coming months, John Thomas plans to develop new display tools for retailers to highlight the wide variety of wood tone, fabric and piece choices in the Select line. It also is planning to add a "digital draping" feature to its website that will enable consumers to better visualize the line's options through the use of digital color renderings.

"Select has become the core part of our business in the past few years, and we see great potential to grow it even more going forward," said Sprinkles. "Our goal is to continue enhancing the program through fresh products, finishes, and fabrics with our independent retailers and continue developing new opportunities with Top 100 stores and major buying groups."

About Whitewood Inds.

Founded in 1979 as a distributor of ready-to-finish furniture to retail stores throughout the eastern United States, Whitewood Inds. has evolved into a leading supplier of both finished and unfinished furniture sold through leading retailers nationwide. Today, its three divisions include: Whitewood Ready-To-Finish (unfinished furniture), John Thomas Furniture (casual dining and custom finish programs) and International Concepts (a supplier to specialty retailers). Whitewood is now based in Thomasville, N.C., where it employs 120 workers and has manufacturing, warehousing, corporate office and showroom facilities totaling 350,000 square feet. For more information, visit www.johnthomasfurniture.com.