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The Hosiery Association's Global Legwear Conference to Highlight Economic and Worldwide Production Experts

Charlotte, NC—February 9, 2009— The Hosiery Association (THA) will host its Global Legwear Conference and 104th Annual Convention on Hilton Head, South Carolina, April 23-26, 2009. The Global Legwear Conference will feature guest speakers from the financial and manufacturing sectors. These experts will share an overview of the current world economy plus make projections for labor, materials, currencies, duties, transportation, and other supply chain costs both globally and by key geographic region.

“The legwear business is truly global,” says Sally Kay, THA’s president and CEO. “To be successful in that reality, we must understand the worldwide marketplace including regional economic conditions and growth potential as well as the impact these factors have on the cost of doing business in our industry.”

The opening presentation, “World Economic Highlights”, will provide a macro view of the U.S. and other key markets and will set economic activity expectations over the next 24 months. A panel of experts on Asia, South America, and Central America will then provide detailed insights into these critical regional economies. Finally, conference attendees will discuss the implications to and opportunities for the legwear business in the U.S. and around the world.

“The global economy is a major concern for any manufacturer, especially right now,” says Cathy Allen, THA’s chairperson. “The purpose of the Global Legwear Conference is to give participants the information they need to make the best short- and long-term business decisions possible. Plus, the opportunity to network with colleagues and other companies in the legwear business is invaluable.”

The list of global and regional specialists who will address the conference includes:

- Khalil S. Andraos – Merrill Lynch
- Denise Sakuma – Invista
- Bill Sheely – TopSox
- Zong Guyan – Zhejiang Mengna Knitting Company; China
- Hong Hee Lee – Kaus; Korea
- Steve Mostofsky – TTI Global Resources Inc.; Southeast Asia

- Musadaq Zulqarnain – ILNA Inc.; Pakistan
- Louis Fernando Restrepo – Crystal Hosiery Inc.; Columbia and Central America
- David Garcia – Promotora Textil de Tepeji; Mexico

The Global Legwear Conference and 104th Annual Convention is open to all interested parties however THA members receive a substantial discount. In addition to the business sessions, conference attendees will enjoy opportunities to connect with other participants over meals and golf. Details on attending the conference and convention and on joining THA are available on www.HosieryAssociation.com.

About The Hosiery Association

Founded in 1905 and headquartered in Charlotte, NC, The Hosiery Association (THA) is the premiere, trusted source for information and trends that impact the global legwear industry. THA represents legwear manufacturers and their suppliers from around the world and supports them with information, education, legislative advocacy, and global networking. The organization also works to build interest in legwear with retailers and the media on behalf of its members. THA oversees the industry's philanthropic initiative, **NoColdFeet**, which organizes product donations to non-profit organizations. Additional information and THA membership applications are available at the association's website, www.HosieryAssociation.com.