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HITCHCOCK CHAIR COMPANY COURTS BUYERS

New Hartford, CT- January 20, 2006 – The sale and restructuring of The Hitchcock Chair Company and Hitchcock Fine Home Furnishings announced in November has picked up steam.

“Several strong offers are on the table and I am confident that a deal will be negotiated soon. The good news is that all potential buyers are committed to maintaining Hitchcock manufacturing in Connecticut and continuing its legendary craftsmanship and distinctive brand heritage” adds Coleman.

The decision to sell and restructure the Hitchcock companies is a result of the retail challenges in Connecticut and the proliferation of competition from overseas production.

Hitchcock Fine Home Furnishings plans to close its four Connecticut stores while The Hitchcock Chair Company will continue to concentrate on the sale of the factory and wholesale business.

“The future of Hitchcock is preserving the brand and expanding national distribution for the wholesale division to other retailers nationwide. This opportunity has attracted hundreds of inquiries from potential buyers over the past few months, “ says Ronald Coleman, Hitchcock president and CEO since 1996.

A going out of business sale at Hitchcock Fine Home Furnishings, featuring markdowns on dining room, bedroom and living room collections will be announced in early February at the following locations: Glastonbury, 131 Griswold Street; Wilton, 22 Danbury Road; Orange, 185 Boston Post Road and Riverton. Although the Riverton Flagship Store building may be included in Hitchcock’s restructure deal, the outlet will participate in the upcoming store closing sales.

Hitchcock continues to distribute its classic hardwood collections and signature series to select furniture retailers throughout the United States. The company sells to the trade from a Hitchcock showroom at High Point, North Carolina. A 110, 000 square-foot factory in New Hartford, Connecticut is the main operation center for manufacturing, assembly and finishing processes.

Yankee legend Lambert Hitchcock, founded the Hitchcock Chair Company in 1825. Crafted from the finest Northeast solid hardwoods such as cherry, hard rock and red maple, Hitchcock incorporates hand-woven rush seats, mortise-and-tenon joint construction, dovetail and intricate stenciling into its American-made furniture collections.

The Hitchcock Chair Company and Hitchcock Fine Home Furnishings are privately held and headquartered in New Hartford, Connecticut.