



Joseph Associates International, Inc.



Left to right: Mr. Thomas Panek, The Honorable Neil F. Hartigan, Mr. Mike Skarr, Mr. Joe McCaul

For Immediate Release

**September 26, 2006
Ken McCaul
630-355-6061**

Business Broker Weds World Trade Center of Chicago and Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce

Chicago, IL – The Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce (NACC) and the World Trade Center of Chicago (WTCC) have entered into a strategic alliance in a deal brokered by Joseph Associates International, Inc., a leading Chicagoland business brokerage firm. The new relationship provides NACC members complementary basic membership into the WTCC. This mirrors an existing arrangement between WTCC and the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce. As a result, the WTCC's reach into the Illinois business community has been extended by roughly two thousand businesses.

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This relationship developed in an unlikely manner. Mr. Joe McCaul, president of Joseph Associates International, Inc. (JAI) had decided to join the WTCC. He visited their offices on June 23rd and met with Mr. Bill Lada, Director of Membership and the Honorable Neil F. Hartigan, Chairman and CEO. Mr. McCaul observed that the WTCC office was co-located with the Chicagoland Chamber in the Aon Building. This is analogous to JAI's Naperville office arrangement with the NACC. Mr. McCaul learned of the complementary membership arrangement with the Chicagoland Chamber and proposed that the offer be extended to the NACC. Mr. Hartigan gave the idea his immediate and complete support. Following a series of meetings with the NACC's President and CEO, Mike Skarr, the proposal was approved by the NACC Board of Directors on August 8th.

Mr. McCaul chairs the NACC's Consultants Connection. This committee's showcase is the Success Series which are luncheons featuring speakers and topics of interest to the business community. Mr. Hartigan has agreed to speak at the next Success Series which will be held at the Cress Creek Country Club on November 8th. His presentation will highlight the international trade opportunities available to Illinois businesses of all size. Mr. Hartigan will also explain how NACC members can take full advantage of the WTCC's global network. The series is sponsored by Amcore Bank with event sponsorship by Sikich Worldwide.

The WTCC is a member of the World Trade Centers Association, the world's largest, private business network. Under the leadership of its Chairman, the Honorable Neil F. Hartigan, the WTCC focuses on providing the services that Illinois businesses need to compete and succeed in the global markets. By emphasizing both trade promotion and education, the WTCC aims to create the trade culture our business community needs to compete in the global market.

The Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce boasts approximately 2,000 members. Its President and CEO, Mr. Mike Skarr, has provided the leadership which has allowed the NACC to expand to its current position as the second largest chamber in Illinois. Mr. Skarr serves on the American Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and in an advisory role to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Joe McCaul is the president and founder of Joseph Associates International, Inc. a business brokerage firm focused on ownership transfers of privately held businesses. The firm was a 2006 winner of the Business Ledger's Annual Award for Business Excellence. JAI has offices in the Chicago Board of Trade Building and Naperville, Illinois. Mr. McCaul has earned the International Business Brokers Association's advanced designation of "Merger & Acquisition Master Intermediary" now held by only 67 individuals worldwide. Joe serves as committee chair of the Consultants Connection within the Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce.

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