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MMPI recruits more fair trade resources

By Home Accents Today Staff -- Home Accents Today, June 15, 2010

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Merchandise Mart Properties Inc. is providing more qualified Fair Trade resources during its summer shows.

The Fair Trade Federation will host a pavilion at The California Gift Show and The Chicago Market: Living and Giving, offering buyers a broad spectrum of quality products.

The California Gift Show was the first to host a Fair Trade pavilion, and boasts the largest collection of fair trade exhibitors in the industry.

These partnerships have helped to support the expansion of Fair Trade in Chicago, at The Chicago Market: Living and Giving show this past January, and the July Market will feature its largest pavilion yet with a number of new to market resources for the Midwest market.

The Fair Trade Federation is a trade association that strengthens and promotes organizations fully committed to fair trade. The federation is a part of the global fair trade movement, building equitable and sustainable trading partnerships and creating opportunities to alleviate poverty. Fair trade products offer more choices for retailers to help differentiate their business in order to meet consumer demand for artisan products.

"For more than 60 years, fair trade organizations have offered high quality products which create positive change for some of the world's poorest communities," said Federation Executive Director Carmen K. Iezzi. "We are delighted to provide a one-stop-shop to connect buyers in Chicago and LA with companies who have fair trade at the heart of what they do."

"MMPI is excited to once again offer fair trade products at The California Gift Show and The Chicago Market. Fair trade has had great success at both shows and we hope to build on that as we welcome new and returning Fair Trade Federation member artists to the show," said Joan Ulrich, senior vice president, MMPI. "Fair trade has become a standout component of both markets and really differentiates The California Gift Show and Chicago Market within the industry."

The California Gift Show fair trade exhibitors include:

- Another Land, booth 1024
- Bridge for Africa, booth 1010
- Carmen Iezzi / Federation Booth, booth 1043
- Casa Bonampak, booth 1031
- Cheppu Himal, booth 1000
- Dunitz & Co., booth 1030
- Eternal Threads, booth 1042
- F.T. Renner, booth 1200
- Handmade Expressions, booth 1019
- Inter-American Trading, booth 1005
- Leakey Collection / Zulugrass, booth 1032
- Lucama Designs, booth 1048
- Malia Designs, booth 1025
- Manos de Madres, booth 1014
- Mata Traders, booth 1023
- One World Projects, booth 1004 / 1005
- Sevyra, booth 1026
- SPIRAL Foundation, booth 1015
- Swahili Imports, booth 1001
- World Finds, booth 1027
- Zen Zen Home & Garden, booth 1018

Chicago Market fair trade vendors include:

- Avatar, booth 8-9106
- A Bridge for Africa, booth 8-9102
- Dunitz and Co, booth 8-8088
- Eternal Thread, booth 8-9105
- Global Goods Partners, booth 8-8099
- Good Paper, booth 8-8107
- Handmade Expressions, booth 8-8102
- Inter-American Trading Inc, booth 8-8098
- Kazuri, booth 8-9107
- Lucia's Imports, booth 8-9097
- Lucuma Designs, booth 8-8101
- Mata Traders, booth 8-9103
- Minga Imports, booth 8-8106

- Partners for Just Trade, booth 8-9104
- Sevyra, booth 8-9095
- Sustainable Threads, booth 8-8100
- Tibet Collection, booth 8-9093
- Venture Imports, booth 8-9101
- World Finds, booth 8-8094
- World-Shoppe, booth 8-9100

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