

**THE GARDEN ACCESSORIES COURTYARD DEBUTS AT THE  
INTERNATIONAL CASUAL FURNITURE & ACCESSORIES MARKET AT THE  
CHICAGO MERCHANDISE MART, SEPTEMBER 21-24, 2009**  
*Special exhibitor area will highlight the best in outdoor living accessories*

**CHICAGO (August 6, 2009)** – The International Casual Furniture & Accessories Market™ is proud to announce its new Garden Accessories Courtyard, a 10,000-square-foot area that will be home to exhibitors showcasing outdoor accessories. This dedicated area will be located on the Northwest side of the 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Market Suites during Market.

“The Garden Accessories Courtyard is a continuation of MMPI’s pursuit of ‘Redefining Life Outdoors,’” said Whitney Gillespie, vice president, MMPI. “Accessories are an important component of the outdoor room and the Courtyard will offer buyers a central location where they can find exhibitors with all the accessories to complete their merchandising needs and customers’ demands.”

“We are very excited to be participating in the new Garden Accessories Courtyard at this year’s Casual Market.” said Stacey Shiver, Fishtales. “Having a one-stop-shopping experience for accessories will make it so much easier for retailers to find everything they need for successful merchandising.”

Sponsored by *Hearth & Home* magazine, The Garden Accessories Courtyard will be home to exhibitors featuring decorative accessories, outdoor lighting, hearth products, tabletop, rugs, pottery, statuary and much more.

Accessories have become an integral way for retailers to increase their store’s profits. As an easy last-minute purchasing option, accessories not only add to a store’s merchandising mix, they also add to their bottom line. Accessories are the go-to-component to update and complete an outdoor room. To learn how retailers can make the most of accessories, join Richard Wright, *Hearth & Home* editor, as he moderates a panel discussion on the proper use of accessories and how it can increase a store’s profits.

“This new destination area is dedicated to finding all the finishing touches for retailers and designers. It makes perfect sense for effective merchandising. In this economy, new accessories are a vital key to add color and style to make existing furniture and showrooms look new again,” said Elaine Smith, president, Elaine Smith Pillows. “We are looking forward to being part of this exciting, coordinated area, tailor-made for efficient accessory shopping.”

**\*Don’t miss the special industry presentation on accessories:**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

**Accessories: Visual Interest, Substantial Profits**

1 p.m. • The Library, Suite 1520, 15th Floor

Join *Hearth & Home* editor Richard Wright as he moderates a panel discussion on the proper use of accessories and what it could mean to a store’s bottom line..

The International Casual Furniture & Accessories Market™ returns to The Merchandise Mart, September 21-24, 2009. The Market offers the newest, most innovative products from leading manufacturers around the world and discover the latest trends in color, product design, fabric patterns and more.

**SHOW INFORMATION**

The Merchandise Mart

**Floors 15, 16, 17**

Monday-Wednesday, September 21-23, 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Thursday, September 24, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Floors 7 & 8**

Monday – Wednesday, September 21-23, 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Thursday, September 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information, please visit [www.casualmarket.com](http://www.casualmarket.com).

**MMPI** is a trade show and property management firm, specializing in managing buildings devoted to wholesale showrooms and commercial office space. MMPI produces more than 300 trade shows, market events and conferences each year.

MMPI manages The Merchandise Mart and 350 West Mart Center in Chicago; Market Square, the Suites at Market Square, Hamilton Market, Plaza Suites, Furniture Plaza and the National Furniture Mart in High Point, N.C.; the Architects & Designers Building and 7 W New York in New York; the Boston Design Center in Boston; the L.A. Mart in Los Angeles; and the Washington Design Center in Washington D.C.

**Vornado Realty Trust**, owners of MMPI, based in New York City, is a fully integrated equity real estate investment trust. Vornado's common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and are traded under the symbol VNO.

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