

THE CHICAGO MARKET: LIVING AND GIVING IS COMING TO YOUR TOWN

*The Chicago Market team to host informal networking cocktail parties throughout
the Midwest this fall*

CHICAGO, IL – (September 4, 2008) – The Chicago Market: Living and Giving™ continues its focus on the independent retailer and their local reps this fall as it hosts three nights of informal networking, cocktails and give-aways in Minneapolis, St. Louis and Indianapolis.

This series of cocktail parties is a chance for independent retailers, reps and designers to network and mingle with fellow members of the industry and The Chicago Market team.

“Our goal is to get out into the Midwest’s independent retail community to learn as much as we can about the challenges facing our retailers and reps,” said Joan Ulrich, senior vice president, Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. “We are also looking forward to gaining feedback on how we can continue to grow as a Market to serve these important constituents.”

Cocktail parties are scheduled for:

- **Minneapolis**

Monday, September 22, 5-7 p.m.

Trocadero's Nightclub & Restaurant

107 Third Avenue North

Minneapolis, MN 55401

612.465.0440

- **St. Louis**

Monday, October 6, 5-7 p.m.

J.Buck's Restaurant

101 South Hanley Road

Clayton, MO 63105

314.725.4700

- **Indianapolis**

Monday, October 13, 5-7 p.m.

Bella Vita Ristorante

11699 Fall Creek Road

Indianapolis, IN 46256

317.598.1495

Party attendees who RSVP are invited to grab a swag bag at the door and enter to win an all expenses paid trip to Chicago for the January 2009 Market including hotel and airfare.* All industry buyers, shop owners, designers and reps are invited to attend this RSVP-only event. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Buyer Relations Manager Sara Hall at shall@mmart.com or 312.527.6446.

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*Prize value approximately \$2,000; odds of winning depend on number of entrants. For official rules or to enter by mail, send a SASE by 5 p.m. on September 18, 2008 to: "The Chicago Market Contest, 222 Merchandise Mart Plaza, Suite 470, Chicago, IL 60654."

The Chicago Market: Living and Giving™ is a trademark of Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. (MMPI). Beckman's Handcrafted Gift Show is a registered trademark of MMPI.

Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. (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 W. 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 L.A. Mart in Los Angeles; and the Washington Design Center and Federal Center Southwest in Washington D.C.

Vornado Realty Trust, owner of MMPI, based in New York City, is a fully integrated 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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