

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MERCHANDISE MART PROPERTIES, INC. PROMOTES EDWARD J. COLLINS
TO VICE PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER OF
THE WASHINGTON DESIGN CENTER AND FEDERAL CENTER SOUTHWEST**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (February 15, 2007) – Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. (MMPI) is pleased to announce that Edward J. Collins has been promoted to Vice President/General Manager of The Washington Design Center and the Federal Center Southwest, effective immediately. In his new role, Collins will be responsible for all building support for the 60 design showrooms and office tenants housed at the 800,000 sq.ft. design and government office complex.

“Ed Collins is a highly experienced executive who has worked directly with leaders in the residential design industry as well as diverse office tenants throughout his career,” said Chris Kennedy, President of Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. (MMPI), owner of the Washington Design Center and Federal Center Southwest. “In both Chicago and Washington D.C., Ed has demonstrated strong operational skills focused on serving the needs of the designers and their clients who shop our Design Center showrooms as well as the government agencies and businesses located in the office center.”

Collins has served as interim General Manager of The Washington Design Center and Federal Center Southwest since May 2006. Previously, he was Vice President and Property Manager of a high-end office complex owned by MMPI at 33 N. Dearborn in Chicago. Prior to that assignment, he was Vice President of Leasing for the residential and casual furniture industries at the world-famous Merchandise Mart in Chicago. Collins also was the executive responsible for four major trade shows produced by MMPI, including: the Architectural Digest Home Design Show in New York City; the Chicago International Antiques & Fine Art Fair; the Chicago Design Show; and the International Casual Furniture and Accessories Market hosted at The Merchandise Mart in Chicago.

Ed Collins began his business career in the executive management program at Sears Roebuck & Company. In 1980, he formed R.K. Collins & Associates with his father, selling textiles to major home furnishing manufacturers, and then was a national account manager with Cone Mills Corporation until he joined MMPI in 1995. Collins earned his bachelor’s degree from Providence College and served as an officer in the United States Army for various armored command assignments in Europe and the U.S. Collins has been an active Board member of several non-profit organizations, including: the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust; the Greater Chicago Food Depository; and the Harrington School of Design, among others.

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**ED COLLINS NEW VP/GM OF WASHINGTON DESIGN CENTER,
FEDERAL CENTER SOUTHWEST**

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The Washington Design Center and Federal Center Southwest is located at 300 D Street, SW in Washington, DC.

The Washington Design Center is dedicated to providing the finest in home furnishings to the design trade, housing more than 60 wholesale residential, commercial and building products showrooms. Considered the mid-Atlantic region's largest resource and destination for the design industry, The Washington Design Center works closely with designers to guarantee consumers the best possible luxury shopping experience.

The adjacent Federal Center Southwest houses major government tenants including the headquarters for the Small Business Administration (SBA), offices of Health and Human Services (HHS), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

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 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 and Federal Center Southwest 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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