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SLMA 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

TYRONE, GA, August 3, 2009 - - Over 350 SLMA members and associate members convened at the Ritz Carlton Amelia Island in Amelia Island, FL July 22-25 for the Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association's 2006 Annual Conference.

David Richbourg, CEO of H.W. Culp Lumber Co., was elected chairman of SLMA at the meeting. Richbourg served on SLMA's executive committee for the past three years as treasurer, 2nd vice-chairman and 1st vice-chairman, respectively. He replaced Charles Thomas, III of Shuqualak Lumber as SLMA chairman.

As chairman, Richbourg's goal for the coming year is to ensure the association's preparedness for the 21st century. "SLMA has met the needs of independent lumber manufacturers since 1961," said Richbourg. "However, very few things about the forest products industry have remained unchanged since the 60's. I look forward to working to make sure that SLMA is prepared to make any changes necessary to be able to continue to support its members' competitiveness in the marketplace. I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for this association and its members."

SLMA's Executive Committee is now comprised of:

- David Richbourg, Chairman, H.W. Culp Lumber Co., New London, NC
- Danny White, First Vice-Chairman, T.R. Miller Mill, Brewton, AL
- Johnny Hall, Second Vice-Chairman, Industrial Wood Products, Climax, NC
- Ben Stimpson, Jr., Treasurer, Gulf Lumber Co., Inc., Mobile, AL
- Charles Thomas, III, Past Chairman, Shuqualak Lumber Co., Inc., Shuqualak, MS

Several members were added to SLMA's Board of Directors, including:

- Vince Almond, Almond Brothers Lumber Co., Coushatta, LA
- Fred Taylor, Jr., Troy Lumber Company, Troy, NC

The Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association represents independent lumber manufacturers throughout the Southeastern United States. Members of the association produce an average of 4.5 billion board feet of quality hardwood and

softwood lumber annually. SLMA represents over 140 member companies with the continued goal of helping perpetuate family-owned lumber businesses. As chairman, Richbourg will provide the association with guidance and leadership on governmental, marketing/public relations and membership issues.

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