



For Immediate Release

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Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers® (AWFS®) recently welcomed five new members to their board of directors, for the 2016 – 2018 term, including:



Mark Alster, Regional Manager, Leitz Tooling Systems

Mark has been with Leitz Tooling Systems since 1995, and currently serves as Regional Manager for the thirteen state Central-North Region. Mark first entered the woodworking tooling industry in 1986 as a machinist for Michigan Knife/Simonds Industries (Big Rapids, MI).



Brian Joyce, Sales and Marketing Manager, Blum, Inc.

Brian joins the board with over 35 years in the Woodworking industry. He began his career as a cabinetmaker and later joined Louis and Company, a leading distributor of hardware and surfacing, as an outside sales representative. Prior to joining Blum, Inc., Brian was employed by Holz-Her USA as a Regional Sales Manager.



Steve Rangoussis Chief Sales Officer, Festool USA/Canada

Steve joins the AWFS Board with 19 years of Woodworking industry experience. He began as an independent sales representative in Southern California, representing woodworking product lines such as Jet, Powermatic, and American Tool Co. among others.



George Ayotte, General Manager, Kemp Hardware

George is a long-time AWFS® volunteer, having formerly served on the Scholarship, Web, Member Services and Golf committees, as well as serving as a director, Treasurer and President for Young Furniture Associates (YFA). Responsible for operations at Kemp Hardware, George began in the furniture industry in 1978 and has been with Kemp Hardware for the past 33 years.



Joel Boyles, Vice President of Sales, Marketing, & Customer Service, Decore-ative Specialties

Joel joins the AWFS® Board of Directors with 20 years of experience in the custom cabinet components industry. He began his career with Decore-ative Specialties in 1996 as an inside sales representative at their Monroe, NC facility. Since that time, he has held several positions in sales and management throughout the United States. He has also held leadership positions in marketing and customer service.

ABOUT AWFS®

The Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers® (AWFS), founded in 1911, is a non-profit organization that wholly owns and produces the biennial AWFS®Fair. The largest trade association serving the entire home and commercial furnishings industry, AWFS has more than 300 members, including manufacturers and distributors of machinery, hardware, software, tooling, lumber, components, plastics, wood products and supplies for the woodworking industry including cabinet, furniture, millwork and custom woodworking products. To learn more, visit <http://www.awfs.org/>