



## News Release

**Virginia Manufacturers Association**  
**Contact: Allan Sharrett, (804) 643-7489**

**For Immediate Release**  
**July 28, 2006**

### VMA, NAM and Troutman Sanders LLP welcome MeadWestvaco to Virginia

**RICHMOND, VA** – The Board of Directors of the Virginia Manufacturers Association joined the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) and Troutman Sanders LLP this week in officially welcoming MeadWestvaco to its new national headquarters in Richmond, VA. The reception, held at the Troutman Sanders LLP Riverside on the James Building, was well attended by statewide business and government leaders, and featured welcoming comments from Virginia Governor Tim Kaine, NAM President John Engler, VMA President Brett Vassey, and Troutman Sanders Administrative Partner Bob Seabolt and Partner John Daniel. Attendees warmly welcomed MeadWestvaco Chairman and CEO John A. Luke, Jr. and President James A. Buzzard, who both gave enthusiastic comments about the bright future of MeadWestvaco in Virginia.

A strong showing of members from both Houses of the Virginia General Assembly reinforced the



legislature's bi-partisan support of Virginia manufacturing. Legislators like Senator Frank Wagner, Chairman of the Manufacturing Development Commission, were in attendance along with various Delegates and Senators from around the state. Extending the warm welcome and pledge of support to MeadWestvaco were also statewide business leaders, two governors and three past Chairman of the VMA Board, along with current VMA Chairman Jim Frantz from Graham-White Manufacturing.

*(Left to Right) VMA President Brett Vassey,  
VMA Board Chairman Jim Frantz,*

*MeadWestvaco Chairman and CEO John Luke, and Virginia Governor Tim Kaine*

As a member of the VMA Board, MeadWestvaco's move to Virginia presents the opportunity for an even stronger relationship. The company's new proximity to the state capitol will also raise the profile of Virginia manufacturing and will undoubtedly offer a fresh, vibrant new voice for the industry.

“Troutman Sanders is thrilled to welcome MeadWestvaco and its strong executive team and employees to the Richmond community,” said Bob Seabolt, Troutman Sanders Administrative Partner. “The reception at our office on the James River was an exciting evening that brought together government and corporate leaders from the Commonwealth of Virginia. We look forward to the continued success and prosperity of MeadWestvaco in our city and beyond.”

NAM President John Engler commented on the significance of the great past and future relationship of the VMA, NAM and MeadWestvaco, framing this partnership in the perspective of the nationwide importance of manufacturing to our economy. VMA President Brett Vassey underscored the value of the relationship between the VMA and MeadWestvaco. Vassey commented that “MeadWestvaco exemplifies the model of what is possible through combining technology-based manufacturing and great leadership.”

Confirming their strong pledge of support for American manufacturing, John Engler and John Luke joined President George W. Bush the next day in Washington, D.C. for an NAM event where President Bush addressed more than 250 nationwide members, reaffirming his commitment to continued economic growth and American competitiveness.

####