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### **ANGELO GANGONE ASSUMES LEADERSHIP OF AWFS®**

*Dale Silverman Retires After 14 Years with the Association*

**CITY OF COMMERCE, Calif.** – Angelo Gangone has officially assumed his new role as Executive Vice President for the Association of Woodworking and Furnishing Suppliers (AWFS), replacing Dale Silverman, who retired after 14 very successful years at the association’s helm.

Gangone previously served as AWFS’ Vice President of Tradeshows, a post he has held since July, 2003.

While heading up the association’s tradeshow, Gangone oversaw the move of the biennial AWFS®Fair from Anaheim, Calif. to Las Vegas in 2005. Under his leadership, AWFSFair became one of the top 50 trade shows in the U.S. Exhibit space, sponsorships and both domestic and international attendance have grown substantially since he joined the AWFS staff.

“AWFSFair has become the place the industry comes to do business,” said Joan Kemp, president, AWFS Board of Directors and West Coast Regional Manager, CP Adhesives. “We’re moving into an important period in the industry and we’re confident Angelo can provide the leadership the industry needs to continue growing and prospering while increasing the association’s influence.”

Prior to becoming a member of the AWFS staff, Gangone spent 11 years in the woodworking industry with SCM Group, USA. He also served as a volunteer member of the AWFS tradeshow committee and board of directors.

Gangone has witnessed the association go through many dramatic changes since his involvement as a volunteer. “Thanks to Dale’s vision and leadership, the last 14 years has marked a time that the association made significant strides in transforming itself from what was largely regarded as a ‘California Association’ to one that has a membership stretching throughout North America and around the world,” said Gangone, Executive Director, AWFS. “With the continued support of our members and dedicated volunteers, I look forward to helping the association continue growing in its influence and becoming even a greater force in making this industry stronger than it has ever been.”

Silverman, whose retirement was recently celebrated at a gala event at the Balboa Bay Club in Newport Beach, was asked to stay involved in the association as a consultant. Silverman has announced she also plans to consult with other associations and remain active on the Ethics Committee of ASAE as well as the Government Affairs committee and Professional Development committees of CalSAE.

Gangone received his Bachelor of Science in Marketing Management from Youngstown State University in 1987 and earned an MBA from Kent State University in 1991.

Founded in 1911, AWFS is the largest trade association serving the entire home and commercial furnishings industry. AWFS has an international membership that includes manufacturers and distributors of machinery, hardware, lumber, upholstery, materials, bedding and other supplies to furniture, cabinet manufacturers and custom woodworkers.

The Association produces AWFS Fair, a biennial tradeshow showcasing the latest technologies and products for the woodworking and home furnishing industries. The event includes a comprehensive five-day educational program where industry professionals can get management training to help them grow their businesses and skill based training to improve their career opportunities.

Association offices are in City of Commerce, Calif. For more information, visit [www.awfs.org](http://www.awfs.org).

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