

Judges Named for 2013 Veneer Tech Craftsman's Challenge™

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 28, 2013

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2013 Veneer Tech Craftsman's Challenge™ Judges Announced; Entries Due May 31

NEWPORT, NC: The Ninth Annual Veneer Tech Craftsman's Challenge™ is now accepting entries, and Veneer Technologies Incorporated announces the 2013 panel who will decide this international design competition highlighting achievement in the use of natural wood veneer products. The judges are Dale Broholm, senior critic in the Department of Furniture Design at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD); Tim Fixmer, publisher, CCI Media; and Thomas Tuck, product and distribution manager with woodworking machinery manufacturer Casadei-Busellato.

Dale Broholm designs and makes custom furniture out of his Boston area studio. He has taught at RISD since 1999. "I am interested in the integration of historical and scholarly research as a tool to inform and shape furniture design. From this came the idea for the Witness Tree Project, a collaboration between RISD and the National Park Service in which wood material from fallen trees at historic sites that have 'witnessed' key events, trends and people in American history is made into relevant objects by students enrolled in a joint history seminar and studio course." Broholm is a consultant for the American Hardwoods Export Council and has lectured on furniture design trends in China, Vietnam, Thailand and Mexico.

Tim Fixmer's involvement in the industry started with a position in a hardwood plant in Wisconsin. After graduation from the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater, he joined Johnson Hill Press and was publisher of *Furniture/Woodworking Product News* that later became *Wood Digest*. He formed CCI-Media, and acquired *CabinetMaker+FDm* in 2011. As a WoodLINKS representative he advocates for and promotes industry and education working together to train the future workforce.

Thomas Tuck graduated from Hillsborough, NC's Cedar Ridge High School woods program where he received his WoodLINKS certification. He received a BS in Furniture Studies and a BS in Business Management from Appalachian State University in North Carolina. Tuck worked previously with SCM Group North America as marketing coordinator and regional sales manager, and since January 2012 has held the position of product and distribution manager with Casadei-Busellato. Tuck also volunteers as a member of the WoodLINKS board of directors, and continues to work with schools in developing their woodworking programs and providing their shops with reliable machinery and tools.

"The Veneer Tech Craftsman's Challenge is an extremely important event in our industry," Fixmer notes. "Each year it brings out the very best in design creativity as well as the highest level of quality in craftsmanship. Everyone loves to see the

beauty of wood celebrated in the exquisite executions of furnishings and art. This competition celebrates it all by surfacing some of the best there is anywhere.”

Veneer Tech Craftsman’s Challenge entries are accepted through May 31, 2013. Competition categories include Architectural Woodworking, Cabinetry, Furniture, Specialty Products, Store Fixtures, and Student Design. Entry materials are available online through www.veneertech.com and from Veneer Technologies sales representatives and distributors. There is no entry fee. Material does not need to have been sourced through Veneer Tech to be eligible.

A cash award of \$3000 will be made to the creator of the grand prize winning entry. The distributor of the veneer for the grand prize winning entry will receive \$2000, and the corresponding distributor salesman will receive \$1000. Other category winners receive \$1000 each. There is also an additional \$1000 award to the grand prizewinner for early entry by March 31, 2013. Awards will be announced at AWFS® Las Vegas, July 24-27.

Veneer Technologies is located in Newport, NC, and specializes in natural face veneers, sheet veneer and edgebanding. The company also offers exotic hardwood lumber and reconstituted veneer products. Inquiries can be made by telephoning 800-593-5601.

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