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FOURTH GENERATION LEADS H.J. BAKER & BRO.

H.J. Baker & Bro., Inc. is poised for strategic growth and added customer value as the Smith family's fourth generation steps up to serve the company in key leadership positions

WESTPORT, CT (February 1, 2006) – The Board of Directors of the family held firm, H.J. Baker & Bro., Inc. recently announced that Christopher Smith and David Smith will serve in key management positions joining Matthew Smith, Chairman of the Board, in the company's leadership.

The three brothers are the fourth generation from the Smith family to serve H.J. Baker in leadership positions. Since 1850 H.J. Baker has been providing quality ingredients to the feed, fertilizer, and sulphur industries. This remarkable longevity is testimony to this family company's commitment to excellence. That tradition continues today as Christopher Smith takes over as President and CEO and David Smith takes over as President of Business Development.

Together, David and Christopher Smith will work to ensure growth at H.J. Baker is built on a solid foundation. As they work in conjunction with the Board of Directors on strategic planning, David will field and direct all future-oriented business development and Christopher will focus on operations.

Christopher will be responsible for overall management and operations including oversight, logistics, financial analysis, communications, compliance, community relations and growth in current business areas. David will focus on facilitating growth in new business model areas and managing business development opportunities such as potential joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions and all other international and domestic opportunities. Christopher and David will work closely to implement strategy and achieve the company's goals. Coordinating their efforts will be vital to ensuring that new business development and company-wide growth are managed effectively.

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According to Christopher Smith, “The H.J. Baker name has been synonymous with dependability and service for over 150 years. David and I take the reputation of this company very seriously. We will work hard to provide direction and leadership rooted in H.J. Baker’s long-standing code of ethics, values, standards, and service. Our focus will be on ensuring our customers get the value and service they’ve come to expect even as we integrate new business models to serve them better.”

David Smith echoed his brother’s comments when he said, “Some of our customers have been with H. J. Baker for generations and that is a great source of pride for us. As Chris and I look toward the future, our Board of Directors will continue to be a valuable guide in all our ongoing efforts as we find the best possible ways to serve our clients. It is with pride and respect for H.J. Baker’s history that we look forward together to a future of continued strategic growth.”

Both David and Christopher Smith have had long careers at H.J. Baker. Christopher began his career at H.J. Baker & Bro. over 23 years ago as a Distribution & Logistics Clerk in 1982 before working as a Mid-West Animal Feed Sales Representative, Executive Vice President and finally as President and Chief Operating Officer before stepping into the role of President and CEO.

David Smith began his career at H.J. Baker in 1980 as a Plant Worker in the company’s Stockton plant before working as an Accounting and Traffic Clerk, Sales Representative, Product Manager, Director and Executive Vice President before serving this year as President of Business Development.

H.J. Baker & Bro., Inc. serves as the holding company for three main subsidiaries: H.J. Baker Fertilizer Group, H.J. Baker Sulphur Group and H.J. Baker Feed Products Group.

As an international manufacturer, importer, exporter and sales agent, H.J. Baker & Bro., Inc. mobilizes resources throughout the world. The company's strategically located processing plants, offices and warehouses create a super-efficient pipeline for the vital commodities and products which it sources, manufactures, and markets. H.J. Baker's own fleet of specialized transportation vehicles ensures prompt delivery to meet client's tight production schedules.

H.J. Baker is highly qualified in materials handling, storage, and transportation. H.J. Baker & Bro., Inc. pays personal attention to every aspect of the operation. Each phase of its organization is operated with maximum efficiency to ensure customer satisfaction.

For more information on H.J. Baker & Bro., Inc. visit their website at www.BakerBro.com.

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