

Immediate Release

**TIETEX INTERIORS AND BURLINGTON MFG. SERVICES SET STRATEGIC ALLIANCE
Tietex International, Ltd., Sells Division To Focus on Core Business Units**

SPARTANBURG, S.C. – Tietex International, Ltd., (TINT) has announced the sale of its Tietex Interiors (TI) division, clearing the way for a merger of strategic services and vertical integration between TI and Burlington Manufacturing Services (BMS). Execution of the transaction is scheduled for this week.

According to company principals, the sale will serve the strategic interests of both organizations and positions both for immediate success. They further suggest that the transaction allows both TINT and the newly integrated organization to pursue core competencies and to concentrate on products and markets that offer robust growth opportunities.

According to Reed Cunningham, TINT President & COO, the agreement was consummated over the past five months. "Over the years, we came to know BMS as a valued as well as technically capable supplier to our company; so we had first-hand knowledge that these two businesses could be highly productive and successful together. They will have a unique capability to address the market's growing demand for small lots and prompt delivery," he said.

TINT Chairman and CEO Martin Wildeman said, "For years, the Interiors Division was instrumental in helping broaden our reach into residential & contract categories and other new markets, here and abroad. Recently, however, we've seen a long-term need to focus our attention to areas that more closely and effectively fit our core manufacturing capabilities. In this regard, we believe this move comes at the right time for the right reasons -- for all the parties involved."

Interiors President Mike Durham sees the merger as a classic "win-win" situation. "Interiors and BMS are a perfect blending because domestically we're able to bring together under one umbrella important vertical capabilities. In these uncertain economic times, we know customers are looking for a partner to step up with products and programs that are reliable and verifiable."

The agreement, scheduled for closure this week, calls for the new entity to acquire the intellectual property of all current residential woven fabrics, certain woven contract patterns and the associated inventory of both market segments. In addition, the transaction includes the purchase of the Williamsburg plant, looms and other capital equipment located in Matkins, N.C.

Durham also noted that Interiors' sales agents would continue to represent and sell the full line of TINT residential pile products manufactured and marketed under the TINT Murena brand name. "We are very confident the new company and TINT will continue to enjoy a collaborative relationship that sets the stage for an encouraging future," he said.

For its part, TINT will continue to manufacture and market its proprietary micro-stitching technology aimed at the contract industry's panel and task seating product segments. In addition, TINT will maintain its current woven wall covering business and the intellectual property related to that market category, as well as other select woven contract patterns.

With this strategic alliance, according to BMS CEO Robert Sills, BMS has a rare capability, able to offer both residential and contract customers an uninterrupted flow of fabrics. "By being vertical from raw materials to finished goods, we offer a reliable and secure supply chain that is refreshing news on the domestic front," he said. "We are now in a position to answer the need for short runs and reduced lead times, and to help take the pressure off the inventory and cost restraints facing today's fabric customers," he added.

Headquartered in Burlington, N. C., BMS offers processing capabilities that include winding, twisting, yarn package dyeing, warping, traditional slashing and the unique capability of slasher dyeing. The company's Pioneer plant was the first facility built by Burlington Industries and is now a stand-alone manufacturing facility. "As we move ahead with this new venture, we look forward to business as usual with our valued customers," Sills said.

Today, TINT remains independently owned and vertically integrated, with four factory locations and over 800 employees located in North America, Europe and Asia.

The company recently expanded its manufacturing capacity in Asia and operates a sales and distribution center in Europe.