

THE MIDDLEBY CORPORATION

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The Middleby Corporation Announces Divisional Management Promotions

Elgin, Ill. (January 19, 2010) – The Middleby Corporation (NASDAQ: MIDD) announced today that Nestor Ibrahim has been promoted to the President of the Star Manufacturing Group, overseeing the six Middleby counterline equipment brands in this division. John Perruccio has been promoted to President of Southbend, taking the previous role from Mr. Ibrahim.

Nestor Ibrahim will succeed Frank Ricchio who is retiring after 28 years of service with Star Manufacturing. As President of Star, based in St. Louis, Mr. Ibrahim will be responsible for the sales, marketing and manufacturing operations of the group, which includes the Star, Holman, Lang, Wells, Bloomfield and Toastmaster brands. Ibrahim brings more than 15 years of experience in the foodservice equipment manufacturing industry to his new position. He joined Middleby in 2003.

John Perruccio has been promoted to President of Southbend, based in Fuquay-Varina, N.C. Previously he was Vice President of Sales for Southbend. Before joining Southbend, he was Vice President of Sales for Toastmaster. He first joined Middleby in 2003.

"I want to thank Frank Ricchio for his commitment and dedication to Star Manufacturing and Middleby. Frank recently led the strategy to consolidate our counterline cooking operations, strengthening the competitive position and profitability of this combined group of brands. Frank's deep industry experience brought so much to all of the Middleby Companies and has been an asset to our entire organization. We wish him nothing but the best in his retirement," said Selim A. Bassoul, Chairman and CEO of The Middleby Corporation. "Under Nestor's leadership I am confident we will continue to grow our position as the premiere brands in counterline cooking. In this expanded role, Nestor's experience will be an asset to all of the brands under his leadership."

"John is extremely well-qualified to lead Southbend, as he spearheaded an industry first with 'buildmyrange.com' and other key initiatives for Southbend over the past few years," Bassoul continued. "We know he will excel in his new role and he has our full support."

Statements in this press release or otherwise attributable to Middleby regarding its business which are not historical fact are forward looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities and Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Middleby cautions investors that such statements are estimates of future performance and are highly dependent upon a variety of important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from such statements. These risks are detailed from time-to-time in Middleby's SEC filings.

The Middleby Corporation is a global leader in the foodservice equipment industry. The company develops, manufactures, markets and services a broad line of equipment used for commercial food cooking, preparation and processing. The company's leading equipment brands serving the commercial foodservice industry include Anets®, Blodgett®, Blodgett Combi®, Blodgett Range®, Bloomfield®, Carter Hoffmann®, CookTek®, CTX®, Doyon®, frifri®, Giga®, Holman®, Houno®, Jade®, Lang®, MagiKitch'n®, Middleby Marshall®, Nu-Vu®, Pitco Frialator®, Southbend®, Star®, Toastmaster®, TurboChef® and Wells®. The company's leading equipment brands serving the food processing industry include Alkar®, MP Equipment®, and RapidPak®. The Middleby Corporation was recognized by Business Week as one of the Top 100 Hot Growth Companies of 2007, 2008 and 2009 and by Forbes as one of the Best Small Companies in 2007, 2008 and 2009. For more information about The Middleby Corporation and the company brands, please visit www.middleby.com.

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