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WRAP Announces First Accredited Consultants

Arlington, VA, **November 15, 2007** – WRAP, the Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production organization, has announced that [TC]² has become the first firm, and that Ivan Viera, Esq. has become the first accredited individual consultant, to provide training and consulting services to factories seeking certification to WRAP's Apparel Code of Conduct and the newly released Universal Code of Ethical Conduct under its new Accredited Consultant Program.

"We've seen a growing need at the factory level for training of management, supervisors and employees in the areas of human resources management, health and safety, legal compliance, efficiency improvements, environmental practices and all areas related to CSR management," said Steve Jesseph, WRAP President and CEO. "An increasing number of brands and retailers are asking factories to become certified to the WRAP standard. At the same time, we were finding that some factories were having difficulty in meeting the expectations and not for lack of trying, but for lack of information and training. While we provide orientation and basic training in the WRAP requirements, we also recognized that no one organization or group of consultants was helping factories to truly understand what was expected of them at an in-depth level and how compliance programs could improve the productivity and profitability of their business at the same time. Ivan and the staff of the [TC]² organization have a unique set of skills that, coupled with the additional information and systems approach that WRAP utilizes, allows them to provide what we believe will speed the certification process and help the factory improve their operations at the same time," added Jesseph.

"[TC]² has been providing research and consulting services to the global apparel, soft goods and sewn products industry since our founding in 1981," said Will Duncan, [TC]²

Vice President, Industry Services. “We have been impressed with the growth and acceptance of WRAP by the sewn products industry, brands and retailers and saw our affiliation with WRAP in this area as a logical extension and value-added service of what we’re already doing at the facility level. With our 25+ years of experience and knowledge in the global supply chain, we believe this service will be of great assistance to our client factories and further help improve their operations. Our initial focus will be in the U.S., the Caribbean and Latin America, but we hope to grow this part of our practice aggressively over the next several years.”

Attorney Ivan Viera, former Vice President with Russell Corporation, Sara Lee Branded Apparel and counsel with Constangy, Brooks and Smith, also completed the consultant accreditation program and will be teaming with [TC]² to serve as an expert advisor on legal, human resources, employee and labor relations, and communication issues. “I’ve been blessed with the opportunity to work throughout the Caribbean, Latin America and Asia for the past 30 years, and have developed a broad knowledge base of legal requirements and business practices in the apparel and manufacturing sectors,” said Viera. “Ivan has such a strong background as a legal advisor and human resources professional that we’re very excited about the skills he brings to our affiliation,” added Duncan.

For further information, please see:

- WRAP website at www.wrapapparel.org or contact WRAP at info@wrapapparel.org or +1-703-243-0970;
- [TC]² at www.tc2.com or 919-380-2156 or contact wduncan@tc2.com;
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