



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WESTPORT RESOURCES PRESIDENT JOHN ADAMS VACCARO IS NAMED
CHAIRMAN OF SECURITIES INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION SMALL FIRMS COMMITTEE**
Vaccaro Announces Committee's Key Initiatives for Year Ahead

WESTPORT, Conn., March 30, 2005 – At its annual Small Firms Conference held in October 2004 in San Francisco, Calif., the Securities Industry Association (SIA) named John Adams Vaccaro, founder and president of Westport Resources Investment Services Inc., chairman of its Small Firms Committee. The two-year appointment took effect January 1, 2005.

A national trade organization, the Securities Industry Association (www.sia.com) brings together the shared interests of nearly 600 securities firms. Collectively, they employ more than 800,000 individuals, representing 97 percent of total employment in securities brokers and dealers. SIA's primary mission is to build and maintain public trust and confidence in the securities markets.

The SIA Small Firms Committee to which Vaccaro has been appointed chairman represents the interests of the approximately 300 SIA member firms that have fewer than 150 employees.

“The support and leadership of the small firms community is vital if the SIA is to achieve its goals and effectively represent the collective business interests of firms throughout our industry,” Vaccaro said. “I am honored to serve as chairman and look forward to a productive term.”

Key initiatives this year for the SIA Small Firms Committee include: ensuring that small firm views are reflected in SIA policy making and in SIA responses to industry issues; supporting the SIA's new Commitment to Clarity, a campaign to improve the quality, transparency and efficiency of the securities markets; and monitoring industry and regulatory developments that impact small firms – in

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particular, the Committee's proposal for a state broker-dealer registration amnesty and the SEC's proposed rule making and concept release on the modernization of the governance of self-regulatory organizations.

In addition, the SIA Small Firms Committee is planning the first Small Firms Forum in New York City on April 5, 2005, at the Grand Hyatt New York. The goals of this event are to tap into the large local broker-dealer community, attract new members and promote participation in the SIA's annual Small Firms Conference which will be held October 19-21, 2005, at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans at Louisiana Superdome.

Vaccaro has been a member of the SIA Small Firms Committee since 1994 and served as its vice chairman in 2003 and 2004. In 1986 he founded Westport Resources Investment Services Inc., the broker-dealer headquartered in Westport, Conn. Vaccaro has been a Certified Financial Planner™ practitioner since 1991 and a member of the Financial Planning Association since 1988.

Westport Resources Investment Services Inc. is the broker-dealer affiliate of **Westport Resources** (www.westportresources.com), the full-service financial planning and investment management firm founded in 1986 by John Adams Vaccaro and headquartered in Westport, Conn. Westport Resources Investment Services Inc. is registered with the SEC and a member of NASD and SIPC.

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