



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 10, 2008

For more information, contact:  
Megan Doern, 503.552.6754

## Three business leaders join Portland Business Alliance Board of Directors, new officers elected *Steve Holwerda becomes board chair*

Portland, Ore. – As the Portland Business Alliance begins its 139<sup>th</sup> year as the Portland region’s chamber of commerce, new leadership takes the reigns on July 1 and four new business leaders from a variety of industries and backgrounds have been named to the Portland Business Alliance board of directors.

New Alliance leadership includes:

Steve Holwerda, Chief Operating Officer of Ferguson Wellman Capital Management Inc, takes over the position of chair of the board.

“Steve Holwerda has been involved with the Alliance and Chamber boards of directors for nine years, and is a strong proponent of the Portland business community,” said Sandra McDonough, Alliance president and CEO. “Because he has worked on a number of complicated issues and on a variety of Alliance committees, Steve brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position.”

Other individuals moving into leadership positions with the Alliance include:

Sam Brooks, president of S. Brooks & Associates, founder of the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) and the 2007-2008 Alliance board chair, will become Chair Emeritus.

Charles Wilhoite, Director of Willamette Management Associates, will become Chair-elect.

Calvin Collins, Group Vice President, North American Operations for ESCO Corporation, will become Treasurer.

Brad Hutton, Regional Vice President, Hilton Hotels, will become Secretary.

New members of the Alliance Board of Directors are:

- Baruti Artharee, Coast Industries

- Vanessa Sturgeon, TMT Development
- Eileen Drake, PCC Structural

“These professionals have shown their commitment to the business community by supporting the Alliance in working toward a strong and vibrant economy for the entire region,” said McDonough. “We value the experience and insight that our new board members bring from their respective industries.”

---

---

*The Portland Business Alliance is Greater Portland’s Chamber of Commerce representing more than 1,300 businesses in the region. The Alliance focuses on central city and regional issues and recognizes that the vitality of the central city and the region depend on one another, and Portland’s vibrant, growing downtown is a regional asset. Visit [www.portlandalliance.com](http://www.portlandalliance.com) for more information.*