



ATLANTA VISTAGE CEO GROUP LAUNCHED BY JAY MCDONALD

ATLANTA (September 27, 2011) – Vistage International, the world’s leading organization for CEO coaching and training, recently announced the selection of Jay M. McDonald to lead a new peer advisory group for Atlanta CEOs. As a chair, McDonald will join other chairs worldwide, who lead local area groups, which total more than 15,000 members in 15 countries.

McDonald, with 30 years of experience as an Atlanta business advisor, serial entrepreneur, CEO, and owner in multiple venues and industries including investment banking, publishing, manufacturing and distributing, will lead a group of 16 to 18 highly motivated executives from non-competing industries who are the key decision makers and leaders for their companies.

Most CEOs selected will have companies with a major presence and market position in their respective industries. The Vistage CEO group will include a monthly, all-day group meeting, leading speakers from around the country, one-to-one individual coaching of each member by McDonald and access to Vistage Village, the online website that connects all Vistage members throughout the world.

“As a CEO with 30 years of experience, I learned through trial and error so I know how invaluable an independent, agenda-free and objective peer group will be as CEO advisors,” McDonald said. “The new Atlanta Vistage group is a great way for me to share my experience helping Atlanta executives make better decisions, achieve greater results, and enjoy more rewarding personal lives. The group will operate in a trusting and confidential environment, but they will discuss serious issues and will hold one another accountable while serving as a ‘truth teller’ with candidness and honesty amongst themselves and others.”

“The process of selecting a new Vistage chairperson is rather intensive, but Jay was a leading contender from the beginning,” said Raul Lamas, Senior Executive Recruiter for Vistage International. “There are more than 100 candidates for each chair position, and each participates in six interviews and exercises including role-play. Jay’s deep knowledge with decades of hands-on experience as a CEO, combined with his passion for mentoring others, propelled him as a front runner and ultimately the clear choice to lead a new Vistage group for Atlanta.”

Julie Nimmons, Chair, Vistage International in St. Louis, said, “Jay counsels other CEOs by offering a deep and wide perspective based on his extensive experience. He has an uncanny ability to listen intently, analyze quickly, and bring solutions to the forefront. He has a quick wit, which not only puts people at ease, but also brings out the best in them. Jay knows how to combine his keen business sense, common sense, and personal touch to help business leaders become better leaders, make better decisions, and live happier lives.”

- MORE -

PAGE 2: Jay McDonald Launches New Vistage CEO Group in the Atlanta

McDonald’s professional background includes positions as CEO and Co-owner of Solare Solutions, LLC; President, CEO and Co-Owner of Network Communications, Inc.; Chairman and

Co-founder of Middleton McDonald Group, Inc.; Principal at The Breckenridge Group, Inc.; President and Co-owner of The Wayne Watson Company and Senior Vice President at The Citizens and Southern National Bank. He serves on the Board of Directors for ECI Group in Atlanta; American Screen Art, Inc. in Knoxville; Compliance Depot, LLC, in Dallas; Buckhead Investment Partners in Atlanta; the Colgate Darden Graduate School of Business at the University of Virginia; and the Frabel Art Foundation in Atlanta.

McDonald received his MBA from the Colgate Darden Graduate School of Business Administration, University of Virginia and a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Management, Georgia Institute of Technology.

About Vistage International

Founded in 1957, Vistage International, headquartered in San Diego, California, is the world's leading chief executive organization, serving more than 15,000 members in 15 countries. Vistage member CEOs participate in chair-led advisory board peer groups, receive one-to-one coaching, learn from expert speakers, and interact among a global network of CEOs representing a broad range of industries. For more information visit www.vistage.com.

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