

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

russell+hazel®

add life to your work

April 20, 2009
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Gartner Studios is pleased to announce the recent acquisition of lifestyle brand, russell+hazel®. russell+hazel® will join Gartner Studios portfolio of brands including mara mi®, Hot Hues®, Paper Prince® and Paper Salon®.

For Greg Gartner, president and chairman of Gartner Studios, “ the acquisition of russell+hazel® enables us to add to our portfolio of brands with a company known for its trendsetting, clean fresh approach to design. russell+hazel® is clearly one of the industries most highly recognized and esteemed brands.”

Christine Plantan, creative director of russell+hazel® states “this transaction will enable russell+hazel® to become a major player in both the national and international lifestyle markets. With Gartner Studios strong management team, coupled with distribution and operational capacities, we will be able to focus on delivering affordable well designed products for work and home.”

Carl Monty, president of mara mi® has been named president of russell+hazel® and will oversee the integration and growth strategy. The Flagship Store and design studio will remain in place in Minneapolis, MN.

Gartner Studios, Inc., founded 10 years ago by Greg Gartner, is a multi-million dollar company located in Stillwater, MN. GSI currently provides both the mass and independent classes of trade with an assortment of products across a number of categories including but not limited to: social stationery, greeting cards, home office/small office, back-to-school, seasonal and party.

“Our brands are well recognized by both consumers and retailers: Hot Hues, Mara Mi, Zoomerang, Roobie, George Stanley, World of Journals, Paper Prince, and russell and hazel.

Depending on brand, our vast assortment of products are found in a number of retailers ranging from mass market chains like Target to upscale lifestyle retailers such as Anthropologie.” states Carl Monty, President.

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