



## Thomas Weisel Partners

*Experts in Growth*

### THOMAS WEISEL PARTNERS HOSTS ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFERENCE

**New York, NY, October 1, 2009** – Thomas Weisel Partners (NASDAQ: TWPG), a global growth-focused investment bank, will host its Annual Consumer Conference, October 1 at the NY Palace Hotel in New York. Institutional investors and company management will gather for this one day conference, which will focus on opportunities and challenges in the consumer industry for the remainder of 2009 and beyond.

The conference will showcase presentations from 40 established and emerging public and private companies, including those engaged in retail, branded apparel and footwear, e-commerce, media and entertainment.

“During the past year, we have witnessed an extraordinary rebound in consumer stocks as household wealth has improved along with the rally in the financial markets. The S&P Consumer Discretionary Index is up 29% year to date, versus the S&P 500, also up a robust 18%. We believe this is a particularly opportune time to closely evaluate the companies that participate in the largest sector of the U.S. economy,” said Keith Gay, Head of TWP’s Research Group.

The conference will be led by Thomas Weisel Partners four senior consumer research analysts: Christian Buss, retailing – hardlines; Jim Duffy, sports and lifestyle brands; Liz Dunn, retailing – softlines; and Ben Mogil, media and entertainment. Analysts will offer insight into the major trends impacting their respective sectors.

A full list of company participants includes:

America's Car-Mart, Inc.

Big 5 Sporting Goods Corporation

Brown Shoe Co. Inc.

Carmike Cinemas, Inc.

Casual Male Retail Group Inc.

Central European Media Enterprises Ltd.

Cherokee Inc.

ChinaCast Education

Cineplex Galaxy Income Fund

CitiTrends, Inc.

Columbia Sportswear Company

Control4

Crocs, Inc.

Full House Resorts, Inc.

G-III Apparel Group, Ltd.

Gaiam, Inc.

Garmin Ltd

IMAX Corporation

J.C. Penney Company, Inc.

Jarden Corporation

Lions Gate Entertainment Corp.

Lithia Motors Inc.

lululemon athletica inc.

MDC Partners Inc.

Monro Muffler Brake, Inc.

National CineMedia, Inc.

Phillips-Van Heusen Corporation

Regal Entertainment Group

Summer Infant, Inc.

The FRS Company

U.S. Auto Parts Network, Inc.

Urban Outfitters, Inc.

VF Corporation

Volcom, Inc.

Williams-Sonoma, Inc.

Youbet.com

Zag.com, Inc.

Zumiez Inc.

## **About Thomas Weisel Partners Group, Inc.**

Thomas Weisel Partners Group, Inc. is an investment bank, founded in 1998, focused principally on the growth sectors of the economy. Thomas Weisel Partners Group, Inc. generates revenues from three principal sources: investment banking, brokerage and asset management. The investment banking group is comprised of two disciplines: corporate finance and strategic advisory. The brokerage group provides equity and convertible debt securities sales and trading services to institutional investors, and offers brokerage, advisory and cash management services to high-net-worth individuals and corporate clients. The asset management group consists of: private equity, public equity and distribution management. Thomas Weisel Partners is headquartered in San Francisco with additional offices in Baltimore, Boston, Calgary, Chicago, Denver, New York, Portland, Toronto, London and Zurich. For more information, please visit [www.tweisel.com](http://www.tweisel.com).

### Investor Relations Contact:

Sarah Anderson

415-364-2500

[investorrelations@tweisel.com](mailto:investorrelations@tweisel.com)

### Media Contact:

Rosemary Smith

415-364-2500

[rsmith@tweisel.com](mailto:rsmith@tweisel.com)