



**Northeastern University Center for Family Business and The Family Firm Institute
Seeking Massachusetts's Most Successful Family Businesses**

***Newbury Piret & Co. Announces its Gold Sponsorship of the Massachusetts
Family Business of the Year Awards***

August 8, 2006 – Boston, MA. – Newbury Piret is pleased to announce its Gold Sponsorship of the Massachusetts Family Business of the Year competition, an annual awards program honoring the most successfully run and managed family businesses in Massachusetts, hosted by Northeastern University's Center for Family Business and The Family Firm Institute New England Chapter. The awards program, which is designed to promote and highlight some of the great achievements of Massachusetts-based, family-owned businesses and entrepreneurs, is currently seeking nominations and applications to be entered into the 2007 Massachusetts Family Business of the Year Award competition.

University Dean Thomas Moore notes, "With all the contributions that family firms deliver to their employees, the economy, and the Commonwealth, it seems only fitting to highlight and recognize their achievements and success. Family businesses account for 60% of total U.S. employment and create 78% of all new jobs. Upwards of 80% of all the world's businesses are actually family-owned."

The program has been developed through a partnership between Northeastern University's Center for Family Business and The Family Firm Institute, New England Chapter. Any Massachusetts-based, family-owned business that includes or included more than one generation is eligible for the award. Award categories will recognize companies with less than 50 employees, 50-250 employees and organizations with more than 250 full-time employees. The awards will be presented at a banquet in May of 2007. Deadline for applications is April 10, 2007. Award winners will be chosen by a panel of independent judges comprised of industry experts, academicians, and peers, and will be evaluated based on:

- Overall business success
- Positive family and business linkage
- Multi-generational family involvement
- Dynamic contributions to community and industry, and
- Innovative business practices or strategies

Ed Tarlow, President of The Family Firm Institute New England Chapter said, "Family businesses are really the backbone of our economy and this program is a great way to honor their contributions to the Commonwealth."

In addition to being a Gold sponsor of the Family Business of the Year event, Newbury Piret is also a proud sustaining sponsor of Northeastern University's Center for Family Business as well as a member of The Family Firm Institute New England Chapter. For more information on the Family Business of the Year competition and the application process, please contact Diana Wood, Director of Marketing, at 617-367-7300 or by email at dwood@newburypiret.com and please visit the event's website at www.nuffi.org.

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About Newbury Piret & Co.

Founded in 1981, Newbury Piret & Co. is a leading New England investment banking firm providing corporate finance services including M&A, financial advisory, and valuation services. Headquartered in Boston, Newbury Piret is a NASD licensed broker dealer serving middle-market companies, the private equity community and business owning families. Newbury Piret is regarded as unique in providing strategic advice in M&A along with financing capabilities which support acquisitions, growth investments, and recapitalizations. Newbury Piret is one of New England's Top Investment Banks in 2005 as ranked by the Boston Business Journal and an educational sponsor of Northeastern University's Center for Family Business. Newbury Piret shares its observations about the M&A and capital markets through its Capital Markets Review publication. For further information, please visit www.newburypiret.com or call (617) 367-7300.

About Northeastern University's Center for Family Business

Northeastern's Center for Family Business is a membership organization that provides education, networking opportunities, and support to business families. The Center for Family Business helps business families identify and avoid potential pitfalls, solve complex interpersonal and family business issues, and plan for future family business success in an increasingly more competitive environment. Among many external measures of success, Northeastern University College of Business Administration B.S. in International Business is ranked 13th in the nation by U.S. News & World Report, BusinessWeek ranked B.S. in Business Administration 37th in the U.S., and Forbes ranked Northeastern the 4th most entrepreneurial campus in the U.S.

About The Family Firm Institute

Family Firm Institute (FFI) is an international professional membership organization dedicated to providing interdisciplinary education and networking opportunities for family business and family wealth advisors, consultants, educators and researchers and to increase public awareness about trends and developments in the family business and family wealth fields.

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