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PERISHABLES GROUP WELCOMES FOUR NEW EMPLOYEES

CHICAGO – July 2, 2008 – The Perishables Group, a Chicago-based consulting firm specializing in the fresh food industry, added three staff to its retail services team and one account services team member.

“The new retail team members display ingenuity and initiative, both qualities which will add value to the Perishables Group and our clients,” said Director of Retail Services Jammie Kokesh.

Retail Program Coordinator Jason Smith, joins the Perishables Group with six years of experience in the food industry. Prior to joining the Perishables Group, Jason worked for a leading food broker in various roles including category development, space management and sales support. Jason also spent two years working onsite at a retailer headquarters. He graduated from Quinnipiac University with a bachelor’s degree in business management.

James LaMaer, also a retail program coordinator, graduated from Saint Louis University in Missouri with a master’s degree in business administration and a concentration in marketing. He will work at the Perishables Group Chicago office.

Jenny Hunter joins the Perishables Group as a retail program assistant coordinator. She will work on-site at SUPERVALU to assist the retail program coordinators in developing category business plans and pulling ad hoc data requests, among other responsibilities. Jenny graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire with a bachelor’s degree in business management and certificates in information systems and leadership.

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Client Support Specialist Monika Allen will work on-site at Sara Lee as part of the Perishables Group account services team. She holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Rutgers University and an M.B.A in marketing from Loyola University in Chicago.

The Perishables Group is a Chicago-based consulting firm focused on creating innovation and value for clients in the fresh food industry. The Perishables Group's expertise includes category development, supply chain management, activity-based costing, research, analytics and marketing services.

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