



## News Release

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**May 2, 2006**  
**For Immediate Release**

### **VMA Announces Formation of Virginia Industry Foundation – Elects 2006 Officers**

RICHMOND, VA – The Virginia Manufacturers Association announced an important milestone today - the establishment of the Virginia Industry Foundation, Inc (VIF). The Foundation will serve as a central scientific, educational, and charitable resource for industry and the public. VIF will primarily focus on environmental stewardship, career education and scientific publications.

The VMA began the formation of the VIF in 2005. VMA Outreach, an independent program of the VMA, will transition to become the first operating program of the VIF. Outreach promotes environmental stewardship through communication, education and outreach. The most notable resource of Outreach for the last 10 years has been the Governor's Environmental Excellence Award. For more information on Outreach, go to [www.vmaoutreach.com](http://www.vmaoutreach.com).

The newly formed Virginia Industry Foundation Board of Directors held their organizing meeting today. The following Officers were elected: President – Brett Vassey; Vice President – Evans Drake; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Brenda Robinson; Treasurer – Wayne Sine; and, Secretary – John Canfield. Brenda Robinson (Environmental Solutions, Inc.) made the following statement at today's inaugural meeting, "It should be our goal to support initiatives that will promote scientific education that will advance industry and the workplace."

The Foundation will be supported by the Virginia Manufacturers Association. The Foundation's Ambassadors, retired manufacturing executives, will begin this summer working with corporate foundations and individuals to raise matching funds and endowments for the VIF. Several companies have already pledged support for Outreach already.

*In accordance with the VIF Articles of Incorporation, the VIF is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, to provide scientific and educational information; compose, publish, and disseminate information and standards designed to advance industry and industry specific education; recognize industrial, scientific, educational, workplace, and environmental achievements; support industrial environmental stewardship; support technology intensive industrial research and development; and serve as a central scientific, educational, and charitable resource for industry and the public. The VIF is a Virginia nonstick corporation and organized within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.*