



## NEWS RELEASE

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# **Bell Incorporated names Ben Graham president & CEO, Ben Arndt executive vice president & COO**

***New top executives to build on low-cost tradition, take Bell to the “next level”***

Sioux Falls, South Dakota, April 1, 2010 – Bell Incorporated, one of the 10 largest and fastest-growing independent folding-carton companies in North America, today announced that Ben Graham has become its new president and CEO, and Ben Arndt has become executive vice president and chief operating officer. Mark Graham, Bell Incorporated’s founder and most recent president and CEO, will become the chairman of Bell’s board of directors

Ben Graham, who served most recently as vice president of finance, sales and supply chain, started at Bell nearly two decades ago, and worked his way through almost every department. At Bell he has created a global supply-chain-management system that incorporates leading sustainable practices, built a dynamic marketing program that has established Bell as an industry leader, and he has led the acquisition and retention of several national and multinational customers such as General Electric, the U.S. Postal Service, and UPS. He earned a bachelors degree at the University of Montana and his MBA at Northwestern University.

When Ben Arndt, who most recently served as vice president of operations, joined Bell in 2005, he brought experience in strategy, brand-building and workforce development from brand management positions at Microsoft and Procter & Gamble. He earned a bachelor’s degree at Yale University and his MBA at Northwestern University.

As members of Bell’s senior management team, both men helped to create a business model that is unique in Bell’s industry, and played key roles in achieving steady growth of more than 75% at Bell during the past five years, even through the recent economic downturn.



According to Mark Graham, Ben Graham and Ben Arndt have been running Bell on a day-to-day basis already, and have proven themselves by guiding the business successfully through one of the most turbulent economic times the packaging industry has seen.

“They have built upon my vision for Bell in every way – as a low-cost producer with the flexibility and responsiveness only an independent company can offer, a technology innovator, and as a company whose core values are honesty and accountability.”

The leadership change occurs as Bell enters a new era, marked by the purchase of a press that significantly expands the company’s capabilities. The new press, the Heidelberg Speedmaster XL 162 VLF (very large format) press, will be the first of its kind installed in North America, and enables Bell to compete with its largest competitors for the biggest customers.

“The fact that Bell is able to make this kind of investment, at a time when so many companies are struggling financially, speaks to the success of the vision Mark created and that we have worked to carry on,” said Ben Graham. “Thanks in large part to Mark’s leadership and vision; we are very well positioned for the future.”

#### About Bell, Incorporated

Bell Incorporated is one of the 10 largest independently owned folding carton companies in the country, the world’s largest supplier of paperboard envelopes, and provides packaging services to some of the world’s largest food manufacturers.

The company’s low-cost business model involves investing in the latest high-speed converting technology, maintaining a lean, cost-focused organization, and growing prudently. As a result, Bell has remained a strong independent player with the flexibility to innovate and invest to meet the needs of specific customers.

Bell Incorporated has headquarters and two plants in Sioux Falls, SD and maintains offices in Chicago. For more information, visit [www.bell-inc.com](http://www.bell-inc.com).

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