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CONTACT: echo macKenzie
EMAIL: echo@theechoprojects.com

Bright Announces Transition to Employee Ownership through ESOP
Employee Owned. Family Run.

Bright Chair and The Bright Group are proud to announce their transition to employee ownership through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP). This marks a meaningful milestone as Bright approaches its 100-year anniversary.

Built on a foundation of craftsmanship and design, this move to employee ownership ensures those same values continue to guide the company into the future, while directly investing in the people who make Bright what it is today. It reflects a long-term vision, one that honors the past while building a future rooted in shared success, craftsmanship, and design.

“As our company approaches its 100-year anniversary, I wanted to take steps to ensure our continued independence and to avoid being lost in the morass of a large corporate buyout or bound by a private equity firm’s financial objective,” said Stan Gottlieb, President and CEO. “This path allows both our factory employees making Bright Chair products and The Bright Group team representing our independent makers to share in the success they have helped create.”

He continued, “On a personal level, this transition allows me, along with our fourth-generation family members involved in the business, to remain actively engaged in leading the company while staying true to our core values for generations to come.”

Mr. Gottlieb will continue in his active role as President and CEO, guiding the company forward and ensuring continuity, stability, and a strong connection to its legacy.

For clients, partners, and the broader market, Bright remains committed to the same service, standards, and relationships that have defined the company for generations. Leadership remains firmly in place, and business will continue as usual, now with even stronger long-term alignment between the company, its employees, and the future of the brand.

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BRIGHT[®]
HANDCRAFTED IN AMERICA SINCE 1927

THE
BRIGHT GROUP

ABOUT BRIGHT CHAIR COMPANY:

For almost 10 decades, family-owned and operated Bright Chair has created hand-crafted furniture in the United States. Founded as a shop where dedicated artisans could practice their time-honored skills without compromise, Bright continues to create fine, exceptionally detailed pieces customized to each client's unique specifications. With its vertically integrated plant in Middletown, New York, and a strong commitment to environmental stewardship, Bright maintains full control over production, from raw lumber to finishing touches. Bright Chair Company offers classic contemporary furniture collections—reflecting a history steeped in tradition refined for a modern sensibility.

ABOUT THE BRIGHT GROUP:

The Bright Group was founded as a place to experience Bright designs firsthand and has since evolved into a multi-line showroom offering a complete, layered view of how furnishings are meant to be lived with. Bringing together independently owned manufacturers, artisans, and designers, with a focus on US manufacturing, The Bright Group is known for high-quality, handcrafted pieces, a complementary design perspective, and exceptional versatility. Alongside a broad range of standard offerings, the showroom is especially recognized for its custom capabilities and its ability to meet the unique needs of each client.