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# News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Christine Cunnick, Director of Communications  
(703) 516-0700

## **N.G.A. APPOINTS RICK BRINDLE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE N.G.A. SUPPLIER ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**ARLINGTON, VA**, -- The National Grocers Association (N.G.A.) is pleased to announce that Rick Brindle, Customer Vice President; eSales & Industry Relations, Kraft Foods North America, has been appointed Chairman of the N.G.A. Supplier Advisory Council.

In 2004, N.G.A. undertook a strategic planning process that defined our vision, mission and philosophy as the organization that represents all parts of the independent grocery value chain. The Strategic Plan laid out an updated system of councils and committees that would provide guidance and recommendations regarding the development of N.G.A. policy positions, programs and services. The Supplier Advisory Council was one of the many councils created, designed to provide a vehicle for N.G.A.'s Associate Members to lend their knowledge and expertise towards the development of strategic programs and initiatives for the general N.G.A. membership.

"We are excited to introduce Rick Brindle as Chairman of the Supplier Advisory Council. Mr. Brindle brings a wealth of industry experience and he will be a valuable resource in redefining a mission and agenda for the group," said Frank DiPasquale, Senior Vice President of the National Grocers Association. "His broad expertise in consumer goods sales leadership, new business/emerging market development, building brand equity, eBusiness development and leveraging information technology for competitive advantage for the consumer goods and retail industries will be a valuable asset to the council and our organization."

The next meeting of the Supplier Advisory Council will be held at the Executive Management Conference, September 26 – 29 in Dallas, TX. The meeting will be on Friday, September 26 at 1:00 p.m. For more information please contact Adam Dreyer at (703) 516-0700.

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N.G.A. is the national trade association representing the retail and wholesale grocers that comprise the independent sector of the food distribution industry. An independent retailer is a privately owned or controlled food retail company operating a variety of formats. Most independent operators are serviced by wholesale distributors, while others may be partially or fully self-distributing. Some are publicly traded but with controlling shares held by the family and others are employee owned. Independents are the true "entrepreneurs" of the grocery industry and dedicated to their customers, associates, and communities. N.G.A. members include retail and wholesale grocers, state grocers associations, as well as manufacturers and service suppliers. For more information about N.G.A. and the independent sector of the industry, see the N.G.A. website: [www.NationalGrocers.org](http://www.NationalGrocers.org).