

## For Immediate Release

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## NAJAFI COMPANIES-OWNED SKYMALL, INC. NAMES KEVIN WEISS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**PHOENIX**, **Ariz**. **(May 6, 2013)** – The board of directors of SkyMall, Inc. today announced that Kevin Weiss will be joining the firm as chief executive officer effective immediately. Weiss, who will also join SkyMall's board of directors, is an accomplished executive with extensive customer relationships and an enterprise-building background.

Weiss will work closely with employees of SkyMall and Christine Aguilera and Marie Foster, presidents of the respective in-flight and loyalty businesses, to further the firm's expansion.

"We are fortunate to have someone with Kevin's experience, track record and leadership ability to take the helm at the company," said Najafi Companies CEO Jahm Najafi. "SkyMall is well-positioned to leverage on current success to become a significant specialty retailer as well as a preferred partner in the loyalty marketplace."

Weiss added: "SkyMall is an iconic brand with access to innovative products and a unique operating platform. I look forward to engaging with our company's customers, partners, team members and shareholders to continue expanding and growing the enterprise."

Previously, Weiss was president and CEO of Author Solutions, the world's recognized leader in the self publishing industry. After joining Author Solutions in December 2007, Weiss led the transformation and expansion of the North America-based business to a global enterprise. In July 2012, Author Solutions was acquired by Pearson, the world's largest publisher, in recognition of the strategic importance that Author Solutions will play in the continuing transformation of its trade publishing division.

Weiss brings more than three decades of sales, marketing and technology experience to his CEO role at SkyMall. Prior to joining Author Solutions, Weiss was the president of McAfee, Inc., the world's largest dedicated computer security company. As president of McAfee, Weiss was responsible for sales, channel development, partnerships, services and customer support, as well as corporate, field and product marketing. Prior to McAfee, Weiss held senior management positions at Ariba, Bindview Corporation and BMC Software. Weiss began his career at IBM Corporation where he spent more than 15 years in a variety of sales and business development positions.



Weiss earned a Bachelor of Arts in politics from Princeton University in 1979. Weiss and his wife, Elizabeth, have four grown children.

## About SkyMall

SkyMall is a multi-channel, direct marketer offering high-quality, innovative merchandise from top direct marketers and manufacturers through the iconic SkyMall catalog and website, SkyMall.com. The SkyMall catalog is seen by approximately 88% of all domestic air passengers reaching more than 650 million travelers annually. Founded in 1999, SkyMall Ventures (SMV) is an innovative provider of merchandise, gift cards and experiential rewards reaching millions of loyalty program members in some of the most well-regarded loyalty programs in the country. SMV provides cost-effective, global solutions supported by a high-quality customer experience.

## **About Najafi Companies**

Najafi Companies is an international private investment firm based in Phoenix, Arizona, with offices in New York, Paris, Toronto and holdings in sectors including consumer, media, technology, industrial, energy and real estate across seven countries. The firm makes highly-selective investments in companies with strong management teams across a variety of industries, often in areas undergoing rapid technological transformation. The firm takes a long-term view on its investments and focuses its efforts to create value through growth and superior performance. Najafi Companies funds its investments with internally generated capital, not through a fund. Free from the restrictions of a fund, the firm is able to move quickly and decisively when investing, and with no requirements to return capital to outside partners, Najafi Companies is able to make investments that create maximum value for the long-term.