



## NAEGA

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For Immediate Release

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### **NAEGA Board of Directors and Officers named, Amstutz Award presented**

*Recognition given to departing Chairman Bill Hale for accomplishments in promoting Ag. Trade*

WASHINGTON, DC – At the 2008 annual meeting of the North American Export Grain Association (NAEGA), the association named a Board Directors and officers were elected. Outgoing NAEGA Chairman Bill Hale of Cargill, Inc. was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the association and its mission.

NAEGA consists of private and publicly owned companies and farmer-owned cooperatives that are involved in and provide services to the bulk grain and oilseed exporting industry. The trade association's mission is to promote and sustain the development of commercial export of grain and oilseed and their primary products. Through a reliance on member action and support, NAEGA acts to accomplish this mission from its office in Washington D.C., and in markets throughout the world.

At their meetings NAEGA membership celebrated the 96<sup>th</sup> year of successful NAEGA activity and elected to its Board of Directors the following industry leaders: Gary Anderson, CHS, Inc.; Steve Campbell, Louis Dreyfus Commodities; Charles Colbert, Zen-Noh Grain Corp; Jerry Cotter, Port of Corpus Christi; Tom Hammond, Columbia Grain; Terry James, James Richardson Int'l Ltd.; Matt Jansen, ADM Growmark; Tatsuya Noguchi, Mitsui & Co; David Parker, Nidera, Inc; Steve Smalley, Cargill, Inc.; and Mark VanEmon, Bunge North America. Anderson was named Chairman of NAEGA and is joined by Secretary – Treasurer VanEmon and Vice-Chairs Campbell, Colbert, Hammond, Jansen and Smalley on NAEGA's Executive Committee.

NAEGA's highest honor, The Amstutz Award, was presented to outgoing NAEGA Board of Directors Chairman Bill Hale of Cargill, Inc. Mr. Hale was presented with the award upon his completion of 5 outstanding and exceptional years as NAEGA Board Chairman. During Bill's tenure, the longest of any recent NAEGA Chairman, NAEGA was consistently successful in addressing critical trade related issues and established itself as leader in the United States, North America and globally in "Working Together to Make Trade Work".

The honor, named after former NAEGA President Dan Amstutz, is awarded only when merit dictates and worthy candidates are identified. The principle criterion for recipients of the award is the special contribution the person has made in promoting export grain and oilseed trade from the United States. The honor is not focused on

longevity of service, but rather for an extraordinary and noteworthy contribution which deserves special recognition.

Bill Hale joins two other active industry leaders that were honored last year: Arvid Hawk and Walter Muff. Previously US Senators Richard Lugar and Pat Roberts and Michal Fribourg of Continental Grain were presented with the award, as well as Daniel Amstutz, the award's first recipient, for whom the honor is named. More information on the Association and a memorial tribute to Mr. Amstutz can be found on the web at [www.naega.org](http://www.naega.org).