

**For Immediate Release**

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### **Embroidery Network Foundation Holds Fifth National Apparel Drive**

**Kent, OH (May 25, 2007).** Embroidery Network Foundation (ENF) has announced its fifth DoDuds apparel drive, which will be held August 3-4, 2007 at Embroidery Mart-EAST in Nashville. The goal of DoDuds is to assist families who have entered the network of women's shelters for safety and support through the donation of new apparel and financial contributions. As neighbors and friends, ENF and DoDuds apparel drives bring the commercial embroidery industry together by taking action to effect change.

Over the years, there has been a desire on the part of professional embroiderers to participate in a program that would allow individual embroidery business owners to make a meaningful contribution to society. DoDuds is one way to make this happen! "The donation of 28 boxes and bags of new clothing makes a powerful difference in the lives of others," stated Jennifer Bush, the director of development at the Women's Safe House in St. Louis, Missouri.

Every DoDuds drive held to date has collected at least 300 pounds of new clothing. The generosity of embroidery business owners has resulted in shelters in five states receiving NEW clothing for their families. This is a first and a most welcome asset to success as these agencies set up job interviews for their clients in an effort to help them move forward rather than returning to adverse settings. As one counselor commented, "making women feel good about themselves is one of our goals and looking nice is a great first step."

To date, shelters in Lincoln, NE, Cleveland, OH, St. Louis, MO, Nashville, TN, and Las Vegas, NV have been the recipients of DoDuds apparel drives. During the Katrina disaster the NNEP office received massive clothing donations from members. All the clothing was sorted and sent directly to specific schools or organizations in the New Orleans area. Additionally, cases of children's underwear and socks were purchased with incoming funds and sent to numerous schools in Houston, where they were sheltering children from the disaster area.

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ENF, a 501(c)(3) organization, was established in December of 2004 by the National Network of Embroidery Professionals, Incorporated (NNEP). ENF intends to partner with a local organization in every city where an NNEP event is held. It is the goal of ENF to eventually connect with a network of women's centers across the entire country, to which items can be donated on a regular basis.

NNEP is the commercial embroidery industry's largest professional organization. NNEP offers embroidery expertise, education, trade shows, business products and services to its more than 1,800 members. Decorated apparel is a \$6 Billion industry and includes shirts, headwear, outerwear, uniforms and many other products decorated with a company's name, logo or message.