

## NEWS RELEASE

### **The Price Companies, Inc. introduces new Price BIOstock Services division**

*Experienced wood processing facilities operator markets management services for handling other biomass feedstock*

Monticello, ARK (October 12, 2006): The Price Companies, Inc. has announced the launch of a new division called "Price BIOstock Services." As a wood processing services company for over forty years, the new division will focus on offering a broad range of management and operations technology services to companies involved in the rapid growth of biofuel refineries in North America and abroad.

The future of biofuels production will involve using cellulosic biomass (like wood chips, rice straw, corn stover, and even urban waste) as feedstock for the refinery/conversion process. Capitalizing on the parent company's existing resources and experience from operating state-of-the-art facilities at nineteen sites in the United States, the new division offers an expanded set of services for managing other biomass feedstock materials. These services include consulting, procurement, systems design/engineering, and facilities management.

"From industry changes we are monitoring through our association memberships, we anticipate a surge in demand for the products and services that The Price Companies have been providing, with minor modification, for over forty years," says Price BIOstock Services General Manager Dick Carmical. "The need for specialized equipment and personnel will be huge worldwide. Price can provide people and facilities to procure, grow, harvest, and process the fiber necessary for biofuels. We are eager to work with enterprises in search of an experienced, professional team that can source, build, and manage biostock."

In a related development, The Price Companies, Inc. has announced the signing of a contract with fine paper manufacturer PaperlinX Limited of Australia. Under the terms of the contract, Price will build, own, and manage a state-of-the-art facility that will enhance the quality and consistency of pulp to be produced for PaperlinX's Maryvale Mill pulp capacity and bleach plant in Victoria, Australia.

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For more information, please contact:

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#### **About The Price Companies, Inc.**

The Price Companies, Inc is one of the largest and most experienced wood processing companies in the U.S. It was established in 1965 as a lumber, logging, and sawmilling operation. In 1981, the company began engineering and fabricating pre-processing equipment and contracting wood chipping services. The concept involved constructing and operating a Price-designed chipping mill for the benefit of a host pulp and paper producer. It now operates 19 facilities under contract for many of the most respected manufacturing companies in America – including International Paper, Weyerhaeuser, and Georgia Pacific.

#### **About PaperlinX Limited**

PaperlinX Limited is the world's leading fine paper merchant, with businesses in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, North America, South Africa and Europe. Through its Australian Paper division, it is also the only Australasian producer of high quality communication papers including Reflex, Australia's leading copy paper, and a major Australian producer of high performance packaging and industrial papers.