



December 9, 2014

## **Xcel Brands, Inc. Announces a Licensing Agreement With Dempsey & Carroll**

NEW YORK, Dec. 9, 2014 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Xcel Brands, Inc. (OTCQB:XELB) selects a storied American manufacturer, Dempsey & Carroll to partner in the creation of the Isaac Mizrahi fine stationery. Inspired by Isaac Mizrahi's timeless cosmopolitan designs, iconic prints and bold colors, the paper collections offer fashionable and playful personal correspondence.

The beautiful handcrafted collection features mixed box sets in polka dots, stripes, plaids and floral motifs. Cards are exquisitely crafted on 100% cotton fiber 3-ply paper. Envelopes are hand-lined and finished with rich pink printing and gold foil.

Robert W. D'Loren, Xcel's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer stated, "We are pleased to partner with Dempsey & Carroll on the Isaac Mizrahi fine stationery collection. This partnership between two iconic American brands will bring another category of beautifully designed products to Xcel's growing business."

Isaac Mizrahi, Creative Director, Xcel Brands, Inc., noted, "Stationery is one of the great pleasures for a stylish person. It's the perfect finishing touch to any personal style. The stationery we've created in partnership with Dempsey & Carroll is bold, recognizable and elegant."

"Isaac Mizrahi recognizes the sentimental staying power of the handwritten note and its ability to express personal style," said Jennifer Steiner Pool, President, Dempsey & Carroll. "Written correspondence is a part of an individual's personal history. We cannot imagine a more inspiring way to invite Isaac's fans to give the gift of a handwritten note than through his timeless and classic aesthetic."

The Isaac Mizrahi New York Fine Papers for Dempsey & Carroll are available at [DempseyandCarroll.com](http://DempseyandCarroll.com) and [IsaacMizrahi.com](http://IsaacMizrahi.com).

### **About The Companies**

**Xcel Brands, Inc.** is a leader and innovator in the acquisition, design, licensing, marketing, and retail sales of consumer brands. Xcel owns and manages the Isaac Mizrahi and Judith Ripka brands, pioneering an omnichannel sales strategy inclusive of interactive media, brick and mortar retail, and e-commerce. Xcel also owns an interest in, manages and designs the Liz Claiborne New York brand which is sold exclusively through QVC. Headquartered in New York City, Xcel Brands is led by an executive team with significant retailing, licensing, design, and marketing experience, and a proven track record of success in elevating branded consumer products companies. With a team of over 50 designers and social media focused marketing executives, Xcel maintains control of product quality and promotion across all of its licensed product categories and distribution channels. Xcel differentiates by design. [www.xcelbrands.com](http://www.xcelbrands.com)

**Isaac Mizrahi** has been a leader in the fashion industry for almost 30 years. Since his first collection in 1987, Mr. Mizrahi's designs have come to stand for timeless, cosmopolitan, style. He has been awarded four CFDA awards, including a special award in 1996 for the groundbreaking documentary "Unzipped." In 2012, Mr. Mizrahi launched the Isaac Mizrahi New York collection, available at better retailers nationwide. Previously, in 2009, Mr. Mizrahi launched his exclusive lifestyle collection, ISAACMIZRAHILIVE! on QVC. In addition, television audiences have come to value Isaac's media presence through his roles on "Project Runway All Stars" for Lifetime, "The Fashion Show" for Bravo and his own series for both Oxygen and the Style Network. [www.isaacmizrahi.com](http://www.isaacmizrahi.com)

**Dempsey & Carroll** was established in 1878 and is recognized as the finest purveyor of finished and bespoke correspondence, social and entertaining papers. The tradition of hand-engraved steel dies, the finest inks, and the most luxurious cotton-fiber papers continues into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Dempsey & Carroll creates the gift of a note in each piece hand-crafted in the United States of America. Dempsey & Carroll provides papers to presidents, celebrities, and debutantes with precision and grace. To see the full collection of hand- engraved and finished papers in the write now collection or bespoke visit [www.dempseyandcarroll.com](http://www.dempseyandcarroll.com)

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