

[People]

Randa Repositions Senior Management



Brad Kovaly

RANDA HAS REPOSITIONED KEY SENIOR management positions to better align itself with changes in the marketplace.

Brad Kovaly has been named president of Randa Luggage. Kovaly has 25 years of management experience at Randa, starting in the neckwear division, then managing a newly acquired leather goods business and, most recently, holding the position of chief operating officer. Kovaly has served Randa in New York City, New Orleans and Chicago, and is now based in Bloomfield, NJ. His invaluable experience will guide Randa Luggage in the growing market of innovative travel solutions, technology and go-to-market strategies. Randa Luggage designs, produces and distributes Columbia, Timberland, Nautica, Chaps, Vince Camuto, Weatherproof, Nine West and other fine brands.



Ed Turner

Filling the chief operating officer role is Ed Turner. Turner has been with Randa for over 20 years and has served in many management roles, including sales, merchandising, sourcing, brand management and PLM engagement. Most recently, Turner served as president of Randa's wallets and seasonal accessories division. Entrepreneurial and efficient, Turner's leadership will help Randa grow in scale and productivity, and position the company to continue to lead the industry through the changing retail and consumer landscape.

Taking the reins as president of Randa's wallets and seasonal accessories division is Al Jasman. Jasman began his career at Bon Marche department stores as a sportswear buyer. Subsequently, he moved to the wholesale side of the business as a neckwear merchant and senior manager at Mallory & Church, and then on to Randa as vice president of neckwear sales, adding leather goods to his responsibilities as he advanced his career. In 2014, Jasman was promoted to senior vice president of Randa's key accounts division.

LiteGear's New Controller



Marilyn Martin

MARILYN MARTIN JOINED THE LITEGEAR® team a few months ago and is now controller. A former CSI officer and licensed private investigator, Martin has 30 years of experience in the accounting field.

"I enjoy time with family and traveling," said Martin, who has traveled to 17 countries and has quite a few more on her bucket list. "I'm excited to be part of LifeGear and the best group of people to work with. I believe in working as a team and throwing in some fun along the way."

Antler Appoints New Director of Sales for Its U.S. Subsidiary



Fernando Padron

FERNANDO PADRON JOINS ANTLER USA from 24-7 International where he was an integral part of the sales team for the past 10 years, helping to build their department store, off-price and online business. He will be responsible for growing business with Antler's current partners as well as developing new relationships for Antler and Revelation.

"We have set substantial growth targets for the North American market with both our Antler and Revelation brands," said Andrew Hamilton, president Antler Americas. "Fernando brings the experience and drive to achieve these targets and take us to the next level."

Two New Hires at Eagle Creek



Jamie Marchbank

AS VICE PRESIDENT OF PRODUCT, JAMIE Marchbank is an integral part of Eagle Creek's management team, responsible for leading the company's efforts in developing, managing and driving product design and development, as well as providing leadership and vision for product design, sustainability and innovation activities across the Eagle Creek brand.

Marchbank comes to Eagle Creek with a deep resumé, built on experience in both luggage and the outdoor industry. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, Marchbank was most recently vice president of merchandising and design for Randa Accessories Luggage Division. Before that, he was at Thule, launching the brand into the pack and bag segment. He started his softgoods career leading the U.S. design team at Samsonite.

New director of marketing Monica Rigali is part of Eagle Creek's executive management team and will direct and develop global creative brand platforms, as well as support global marketing roll-outs and build brand awareness that contributes to the growth of Eagle Creek's business objectives by driving digital, social and other grass-roots initiatives.

Rigali began her career as a journalist in Portland, OR, before joining the brand communications and sports marketing teams at Nike Soccer. After 12 years at Nike, Rigali went on to lead marketing and communications for FOX Soccer and FOX Soccer Plus before starting her own consulting business. She is an avid runner, traveler and food explorer, and enjoys volunteering for Temecula-based Rancho Damacitas Children and Family Services, a group home for neglected and abused children.

[People]

Schackne Named Vice President of Marketing For LongLat



Marcy Schackne

LONGLAT, INC. HAS NAMED VETERAN LUGGAGE MARKETING professional Marcy Schackne as the vice president of marketing for its growing portfolio of luggage brands. With previous executive marketing roles with Travelpro, Heys USA and 24-7 International, Schackne brings a depth of travel goods experience to the LongLat team.

“Marcy will be responsible for developing and implementing global marketing strategies and initiatives that will build the American Flyer, Jenni Chan, Isaac Mizrahi, Kathy Ireland, Body Glove, Ed Heck and future brands,” noted LongLat president Gary Perella. “She is a proven leader with outstanding branding skills and uniquely qualified to understand our market.”

Keep Electronics and Other Valuables Safe and Dry

LEWIS N. CLARK® EXPANDED ITS WaterSeals™ Collection to include additional pouch sizes and new hard cases. The Waterseals automatic double magnetic pouches are dust-proof to a hermetic level and waterproof to 100-plus feet, and are perfect for scuba diving, snorkeling, swimming and other underwater activities. The zip pouches are submersible up to nine feet and are ideal for kayaking, surfing and snowboarding. Both protect electronics and accessories from debris and water. The clear TPU material allows individuals to use touchscreens through the pouch so they can take pictures, record videos and otherwise use their electronics without interference. The straps provide the ability to go hands-free, and both are now available in phone, phablet and mini tablet sizes.

The new hard cases are constructed of shatterproof polycarbonate and can be submerged in water up to three feet. The unique pressure release valve prevents water from entering the case but also equalizes air pressure so the case can easily be opened even if it experiences altitude changes. It is available in three different sizes and also incorporates a TPR gasket, soft interior padding and wrist strap into the design. Its durable construction makes it great for fishing, boating and camping. MSRP: \$12.49-\$49.99. To see the Waterseals Collection, visit lewisnclark.com.



The WaterSeals Collection offers multiple options to accommodate everything from visits to the beach and underwater expeditions to ski trips and cruises.

[Product]

Life's a Beach

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG ON an outing to the beach? AAACK!™ Packs anticipates this question and provides the answer with its Beach Pack. Preloaded with an assortment of items typically forgotten (but generally needed) – eye drops, lip balm, sunscreen, aloe, pain reliever, bandage/antibiotic, etc. – beach-goers have the option to customize their pack by replacing/adding other items before heading to the online checkout. MSRP: \$54.35 (ready-to-go Beach Pack). For more information and to see the item options for building a Beach Pack or other Pack and the variety of pods and packs available, visit aaackpacks.com.



AAACK! Packs are easy-to-build, bring-them-anywhere, remedy-just-about-anything kits designed to take travelers from “uh oh” to “awwww yeah.”

Pouch Perfumes Personal Belongings

THE SMELL-GOOD POUCH FROM DANDY Nomad is a very special travel pouch that allows travelers to perfume their personal belongings – shoes, laundry, unmentionables, etc. – with the fragrance of their choice. Each pouch has a build-in pocket and comes with three absorbent blotters that allow travelers to change the fragrance depending on their mood. Pouches come in blue wave, chevron green and sailor coral. MSRP: \$19. For more details and to see the Smell-Good Pouch, visit dandynomad.com/en.



Add the fragrance of your choice to Dandy Nomad's Smell-Good Pouch.

[Product]

Packables Updated for Today's Adventurers

PERFECT FOR EVERYDAY TRIPS OR AS AN ADDITIONAL BAG FOR travel, Eagle Creek's™ updated Packables™ (in daypack, duffel and tote/pack models) are durable enough to check, but light enough to go unnoticed in a larger bag. Now in 70D heathered nylon, the Packables are equipped with new security features, including lockable zippers with a Central Lock Point and Secure Zip™ Toggles, and pack down into their own pocket for storage. They are available in black, blue and tan with color-pop accents for easy ID. MSRP: \$31.95/\$35.95/\$29.95. The new Packables will be available on eaglecreek.com on July 1, 2017.



Eagle Creek builds smart travel into its updated Packables.

Second Cargo Lift Handle Strengthens New Spinner Collection

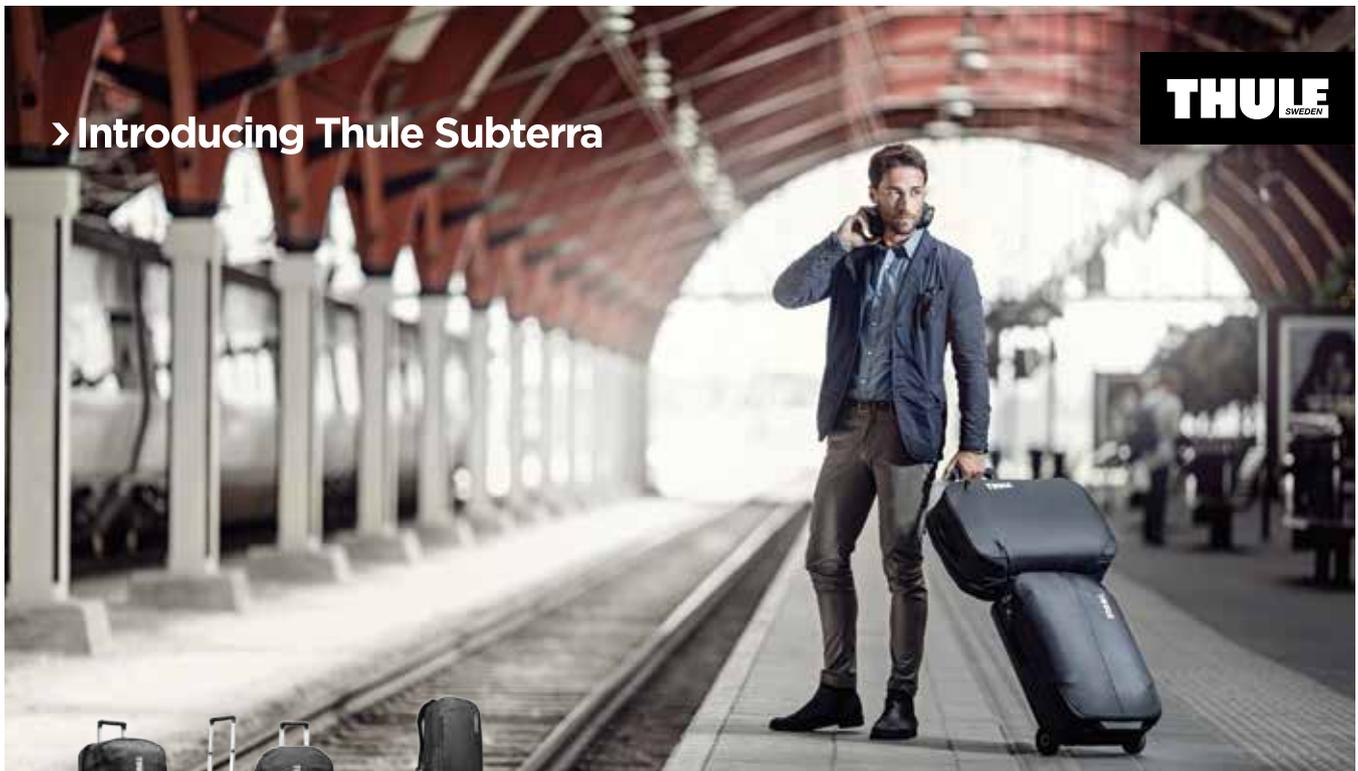
AMERICAN TOURISTER PRESENTS THE muscular Gear Box, a 3-piece collection of Spinners in 29", 25" and 20" (shown) models. Features include spherical spinner wheels with new Hexagon cored hub, two front panel foam-padded cargo lift handles and a Hexagon TRP grip push-button locking handle and zipper pulls. Collection colors include lifeguard blue, neon yellow (shown) and silver. MSRP: \$99.99/20". For more information, visit shop.americantourister.com.



American Tourister's Gear Box Spinners are as sturdy as their name implies.

> Introducing Thule Subterra

THULE
SWEDEN



A collection of luggage, backpacks and laptop bags that is stylish, versatile and built to last.

Bring your life
thule.com

[Product]

Save Electronics from Spills

AT FIRST GLANCE, LITEGEAR'S® A/GOGO RESEMBLES A CONVENTIONAL computer sleeve with a generous padded laptop compartment and a zip-able outside pouch. Its clever twist is a retractable beverage caddy. This patent-pending slide-out tray keeps expensive electronic items away from potentially damaging liquids, whether you're 30,000 feet in the air or at your favorite café around the corner. With one zip, the outside pocket transforms into a rolling luggage sling strap, perfect for today's on-the-go traveler. A/GOGO's sleek silhouette measures 9-3/4" x 15-1/2"; its nylon construction is complemented with protective foam insulation and ABS plastic tray. MSRP: \$39 (pre-orders available June 2017). For details, contact info@a-stand.com.

The A/GOGO from LiteGear fits 15" laptop computers and smaller.



It's Elementary

OLYMPIA INTERNATIONAL LAUNCHES THE ELEMENT SOFT GOODS Collection comprising Backpack and Weekend Duffel, both sturdy in supreme polyester trimmed in faux leather. The 18" backpack has a large laptop compartment, dual front zip pockets with organizer function, top zip pocket for small accessories and water bottle pocket. Fully lined, it carries comfortably with padded shoulder straps. The duffel offers a roomy and fully lined main compartment with a shoe pocket and interior zipper pocket. Dual functionality comes with its add-a-bag sleeve or extra pocket on the back. Both pieces come in peacock blue, maroon, heather gray and black. MSRP: \$60. See this collection at olympiausa.com.

Travelers are set for weekend travels with the ELEMENT from Olympia International.



Super Durable Softsides

MEET THE SOLITE 603 SOFTSIDE SERIES (22", 25", 28"), extremely durable in upgraded nylon fabric with a Teflon coating. The low-top profile, side carry handles, exclusive lightweight trolley handle and 8-wheel spinner system give this collection a sleek yet functional design. The 603 comes with two shoe pockets and a mesh interior compartment for more organized packing, plus a moisture-wicking liner and TSA-accepted lock to keep it all protected. Plus, the case's patented expandable feature uses wire tension technology to expand or contract and keep your items exactly how you packed them. MSRP: \$240/\$300/\$340. Promo retail: \$119.99/\$149.99/\$169.99. To learn more about the Solite 603 Softside Series, visit solite-inc.com or call 844-765-4830.



The Solite 603 Softside Series has innovative features that meet the needs of today's modern traveler.

Take Your Wine Wherever You Go

CARRY AND ENJOY WINE OR OTHER FAVORITE BEVERAGES ANYWHERE with no worries about fragile glass bottles with the Drink Purse from Primeware, a fashionable bag with a fully lined thermal insulated interior to keep beverages cold for hours. Made from sustainable cork, this eco-friendly bag has a spout on its exterior that is cleverly concealed by a flap, plus a secure snap closure and an adjustable shoulder strap. To use, simply fill the included Disposable Beverage Bag with dispenser spout with your choice of beverage and insert into the Drink Purse. MSRP: \$45. For more information, contact sales@primewareinc.com or 800-669-5628 or visit primewareinc.com.



The Disposable Beverage Bag holds up to three liters of any beverage and transforms Drink Purse into a stylish, portable drink dispenser.

[Product]

Pack-Away Tote Bag

ALWAYS ON HAND WHEN YOU NEED IT, THE MATADOR™ TRANSIT Tote is an 18-liter ultra-light packable tote bag made for breezily zipping through the airport, running errands or exploring the local farmer's market. Constructed from 30D waterproof CORDURA® ripstop material, the tote's main compartment features a front pocket, plus water-resistant zipper and taped seams so that nothing will ever leak. Once the tote is packed back into the attached storage bag, it can fit in the palm of your hand. MSRP: \$39.99. Visit matadorup.com for more information.



Matador's puncture-resistant Transit Tote is an ideal carry all for travel and everyday use.

Straight from Office to Gym

THE THULE® VEA BACKPACK 17L, SLEEK AND VERSATILE BACK-pack, is sure to attract urban commuters with an energetic schedule. It transitions easily between the gym and the office, with work belongings kept safe in a separate compartment with padded slip pockets for laptop and tablet, plus storage for files, pens, passport, USB, small cords and accessories. Store gym accessories – lock, keys, toiletries and more – in the interior mesh pockets and discreetly stow shoes or dirty clothes in an expandable interior pocket. Easily pack and access gear in the spacious main compartment, thanks to the bag's convenient duffel-style opening and quickly access smart-phone or snacks via an exterior stash pocket. MSRP: \$99.95. For more information about Thule's products, visit thule.com.



The Thule Vea Backpack 17L lets you keep active and professional gear separate.

THE AIRHOOK®

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theairhook.com ✈



[Product]

Comfort, Capacity, Mobility, Adjustability

SAMSONITE'S SILHOUETTE XV COLLECTION, FEATURING THE 21" Spinner and Medium Glider, takes ease of use for today's road warrior to a whole new level. Deluxe cushioning and soft rubber seals on the wider pull handle provide an exceptionally comfortable grip. The RightHeight™ Pull Handle system features multiple height adjustments that make it easy to custom fit the bag to most body types, thereby reducing weight-bearing stress on your arm and back. The Tru-Trac™ wheel system features a V-shaped, camber-instructed design for a straight roll every time. Glider™ Cases, powered by StrideAlign™ technology, are redefining luggage with their lower center of gravity, wider carry handle and best-in-class wheel system to make it easier to push, pull and carry your world. The bags' rugged tri-core nylon fabric features SamGuard™ water-resistant coating. MSRP: \$229.99/21"; \$299.99/Medium Glider. For more information, visit samsonite.com.



Samsonite's innovative Silhouette XV Collection meets the ever-changing needs of the frequent traveler.

Safe Travels

A SOPHISTICATED AND SECURE STYLE STAPLE, PACSAFE'S® Citysafe™ CX Anti-Theft Tote is kitted out with just what travelers need to effortlessly journey through their work week. In lightweight 100D nylon twill with RFIDsafe™ blocking pockets, this fully lined tote offers Pacsafe's anti-theft technology: with SnapNLock to prevent bag theft, eXomesh™ slashguard protection, a Roobar™ style locking system and a Carrysafes™ slashguard strap. MSRP: \$139.95



Pacsafe's® Citysafe™ CX Anti-Theft Tote comes in black.

Floating Frames

ULTRA-LIGHTWEIGHT, SUSTAINABLE AND STYLISH – LITEGEAR'S® Bamboo Sunglasses have polarized, scratch- and shatter-resistant lenses and bamboo frames. Frame colors are natural and chocolate; lens colors include silver, brown and black. Bonus: The sunglasses float in water. MSRP: \$99. For more information, visit litegearbags.com.



LiteGear's® Bamboo Sunglasses

World's Lightest 3-Piece Set

HEYS LAUNCHES THE XERO™ – THE WORLD'S LIGHTEST SPINNER Luggage set. Cases feature all the latest ultra-light technology in design, fabric, parts and components, helping the set weigh in at a superlight 13.1 lbs. Individual case weights are 3.7 lbs for the 21" case, 4.2 lbs for the 26" and 5.2 lbs for the 30". Fashionable, functional and futuristic, The Xero offers a simple yet modern style with a streamlined appearance and delivers superior comfort, convenience and portability in a feather-light design constructed with durability and longevity in mind. The set is covered by the Heys Worldwide 5-Year Prestige Class warranty. It comes in classic black, blue and red. MSRP: \$839.99/set; \$239.99/\$279.99/\$319.99. Visit heys.com to see the set.



Heys' superlight The Xero™ set will lighten every traveler's mood.

Come On, Get Happy

SMILEY® INTRODUCES 2017 PATTERNS TO its SMILEY World Collection. Lightweight, rugged and expandable, these easy-to-roll cases have double multi-directional wheels, fun linings and a positive attitude with SMILEY World's latest original emojis, including SMILEY World Celebration and SMILEY World Stealth. MSRP: \$99.99/22" carry-on; \$124.99/26"; \$139.99/30". Join the SMILEY travel revolution at atmuggage.com.

More gracious airline reps? Jovial baggage handlers? Kinder, gentler TSA screeners? Carry a SMILEY World Celebration bag and find out.



[Milestones]

Everett Eliot Cobb



Everett Eliot Cobb

EVERETT ELIOT COBB, a cofounder of eBags, the online retailer of luggage, handbags, and travel accessories, died on April 14, 2017 at age 65. Eliot grew up in Portland, OR and graduated from the University of Oregon. After working as chief financial officer for The Warehouse, he joined his brother, Peter Cobb, to start eBags in 1998. For four years he served as chief financial officer of the Greenwood Village, CO-based dot com. Eliot retired from the business in 2002 and moved to Oro Valley, AZ where he was an avid cyclist and involved with a local Labrador retriever rescue organization. He is survived by his stepdaughter Federica, brothers Reed and Peter, sister Martha, and his mother, Anita.

Marc Sloan



Marc Sloan

MARC SLOAN, A friend and colleague in the luggage and travel goods industry, passed away on April 15 in a car accident. Marc had recently surpassed 25 years of employment at Costco Wholesale Corporation and was a buyer for the previous two years in luggage and watches. Born in Los Angeles on July 12, 1962, Marc was raised in Long Beach and attended college at UCLA where he played basketball. He and his wife, Michelle Sloan, who passed away in 2014, briefly lived in Santa Monica before moving to Bellevue, WA, in 1992.

Marc was well-known for his generosity and loyalty, his infectious smile, as well as his fast wit and colorful sock

collection. Marc was a sports fanatic who collected memorabilia, and continued playing basketball and baseball all his life. As a family man, Marc was devoted to his two sons' athletic and academic pursuits. He is survived by his two sons, Joshua and Jordan Sloan; parents Sharon and Matthew Sloan; brother Steven Sloan; sister Hayley Sloan; and numerous aunts, uncles, a niece, nephews and cousins.

Jack Taylor



Jack Taylor

JACK TAYLOR, THE founder of Austin House, passed away on April 18 after a long illness. He was 84 years old.

In 1973, Jack and his wife, Sandra, took a leave of absence

Continued on page 84

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Continued from page 83

from their positions at a local high school to travel to 27 countries across Europe in a VW camper van with their three young children. During this time, Jack discovered an unmet need for travel accessories and, when they returned in 1974, founded Austin House. He declined his acceptance to law school, instead choosing to publish a mini guide called *Travel Tips to Europe*, which was soon followed by travel-related products such as money belts, luggage locks and straps.

Jack is credited with being the father of the travel accessory business, a multi-

million dollar industry that grew out of his basement. Jack had an innate ability to identify new products and provide savvy marketing advice to retailers. In 2000, Jack sold Austin House to Atlantic Luggage. Not content to retire, he opened Five Putts golf store, which kept him busy until it was time to retire for good in 2008. Jack spent his retirement playing golf and traveling with Sandra.

He leaves his wife of 57 years, Sandra, and three children, Sidney (Brad), Stuart (Kara) and Shelby, along with six grandchildren, and a sister, Anita Taylor, of Vancouver.

[Moving]

New LiteGear Space Inspires

AFTER THREE YEARS IN ITS BEAUTIFUL mansion-office, LiteGear® has moved into a 6,000-square-foot office/warehouse space situated right in front of the San Francisco ferry docks.

“We are about 20 minutes south of Napa and a one-hour ferry ride to San Francisco,” notes Magi Raible, president/creative director. “All of our friends in the Travel Goods Association are welcome to visit us on your next Bay Area trip.”

Modern/industrial offices – bright, sunny and cheerful to inspire even more creativity – are upstairs. Below is a large, open and efficient warehouse, sure to increase productivity. Contact information: 1080 Nimitz Ave., Ste. 200, Mare Island, CA 94592; info@LifeGearDesign.com, litegearbags.com; 707-558-3990/phone, 707-558-3992/fax.



LiteGear®'s new office/warehouse

Classifieds

Email your classified ad to Cathy Hays at chaystga@aol.com. Deadline for the Fall 2017 issue is August 14, 2017.

SEEKING MOTIVATED RELATIONSHIP MANAGER WITH LUGGAGE INDUSTRY CONTACTS

Airport security has master tools to open, inspect and relock our TSA Zipper Luggage Locks so travelers get to use and reuse our special luggage locks, rather than have the locks clipped during mandatory checked baggage inspections at U.S. airports. Safe Skies®: 12 lock factories in China; dozens of worldwide luggage brands using TSA-Accepted Safe Skies Zipper Locks. Contact dtropp@aol.com for more information.

SEEKING MOTIVATED SALESPERSON WITH TRAVEL STORE ACCOUNTS

Airport security has master tools to open, inspect and relock our TSA-Accepted Luggage Locks so travelers get to use and reuse our special luggage locks, rather than have the locks clipped during mandatory checked baggage inspections at U.S. airports. Safe Skies®: large domestic inventory; multiple SKUs; lifetime guarantee. Contact dtropp@aol.com for more information.

DISTRIBUTORS SOUGHT

Luggage and business case manufacturer located in Northern California is seeking distributors to partner with and help build our global distribution. We manufacture a unique line of luggage and cases and are interested in building our distribution in Europe, Australia, the Middle East and South America. Please respond to info@aleoncase.com.

INDEPENDENT REPS NEEDED TO BUILD DISTRIBUTION

Luggage and business case manufacturer located in Northern California is looking for independent reps with relationships in the luggage sector to help us build our distribution in many territories across the country. We are an upper middle-market brand with a unique product line. Please respond to info@aleoncase.com.

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