

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 29, 2010

Contact: Kelly S. King
Chairman and CEO
BB&T
336-733-2315

Nido R. Qubein
President
High Point University
336-841-9201

Piedmont Triad Partnership Announces David Powell as New Chief Executive Officer

(PIEDMONT TRIAD, N.C.) July 29: David M. Powell will start his duties as the new Chief Executive Officer of the Piedmont Triad Partnership (PTP) on August 23, 2010, succeeding Don Kirkman, who will assume new responsibilities as PTP Chief Operating Officer. Powell is currently Vice President, Corporate and Government Affairs at NetJets, Inc. in Columbus, Ohio. He was previously Executive Vice President of the Columbus, Ohio, Chamber of Commerce and Executive Director of CompeteColumbus, a 7-county regional economic development organization headquartered in Columbus. Powell has an extensive and diverse background in economic development, including positions in Greenville South Carolina and Durham, North Carolina, and with Verizon Communications in Research Triangle Park.



"I am very excited to return to North Carolina and to champion the vision of the Piedmont Triad Partnership across the region, state, nation, and world," Powell said. PTP Chairman Kelly King expressed his enthusiastic support for Powell. "David has the right mix of economic development and corporate experience. He has seen business from both sides, and he will do an excellent job leading the PTP as we transition into a new and exciting chapter in the history of the organization."

Powell was selected by the PTP's CEO Search Committee, chaired by Nido R Qubein, President of High Point University and a Vice Chairman of the PTP. In addition to Qubein and King, the other CEO Search Committee members are Keith Vaughan, Managing Member of Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC, and Arthur Samet, President of Samet Corporation.

###

The Piedmont Triad Partnership (PTP), one of seven regional economic development partnerships in North Carolina, is the economic development organization representing the 12-county Piedmont Triad region. The Piedmont Triad, the nation's 37th-largest metro region with more than 1.6 million residents, includes the counties of Alamance, Caswell, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Montgomery, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin.

###