



August 10, 2005

**Melvin Lack**  
President / CEO

Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.  
South Texas Chapter  
10408 Gulfdale St.  
San Antonio, TX 78216

Lacks Stores, Inc., and its subsidiary Lack Properties, Inc., have had a relationship with Middleman Construction Company since 2001. Initially, they were hired to construct a new store in San Antonio, Texas. They were selected from among five other contractors who submitted proposals for the job.

As a result of their excellent performance on that project, they have since been hired by us to act as contractor on four other major projects (i.e., new construction or complete rehabs of existing buildings) and numerous smaller projects (i.e., remodeling, consulting, etc.).

While we think of ourselves as a nice company to work with, we know that we are a demanding client. We work under a tight capital expenditure budget, and we expect our contractors to live up to their estimates of a project's cost. Not only has Middleman lived up to this expectation, but the recommendations of the associates of that company have resulted in considerable savings for us – all without sacrificing quality.

The Middleman team works tirelessly on each of the projects to insure complete satisfaction. They listen to what is needed and try to find timely and economical solutions. Projects are brought in on time and on target. Every member of the Middleman Construction Company has always been a true professional with whom to work. We appreciate the quality workmanship, the personal service, and, particularly, the attention to detail that is given to each project, no matter how large or how small.

We have appreciated their work on the past projects, and we look forward to working with them in the future. We would highly recommend them to become an "Accredited Quality Contractor" within the Associated Builders and Contractors Association.

It is my pleasure to recommend them, and, should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melvin Lack", written over a white background.

Melvin Lack

**Lack's Stores, Inc.**

Corporate Offices: 200 S. Ben Jordan ♦ Victoria, Texas 77901  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 2088 ♦ Victoria, Texas 77902

Tel: 361-578-3571 ♦ Fax: 361-576-9814 ♦ www.lacks.com ♦ E-mail: mlack@lacks.com