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For Immediate Release

AMERICAN ITALIAN PASTA COMPANY TO HOST INVESTOR CONFERENCE CALL TO REVIEW 2008 FISCAL YEAR AND OFFER GENERAL BUSINESS UPDATE

COMPANY ALSO ANNOUNCES ANNUAL MEETING DATE

KANSAS CITY, MO., December 4, 2008 -- American Italian Pasta Company (NASDAQ:AIPC), the largest producer of dry pasta in North America, today announced that it will host a conference call prior to the market opening on Thursday, December 11, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. Central Time (9:00 a.m. Eastern Time) to review fiscal year 2008 results and offer a general business update. The toll-free conference call-in number is 1-877-795-3599 and 1-719-325-4778 for International callers. The password is 3476665.

For those unable to attend the live broadcast, a replay will be available through midnight Friday, December 26, 2008. To listen to the replay, the toll-free call-in number is 1-888-203-1112 and 1-719-457-0820 for International callers. The replay password is 3476665.

Annual Meeting

The Company also announced that its Board of Directors has set Thursday, February 19, 2009 as the date for the Company's annual meeting. The meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. Central Time at the offices of Husch Blackwell Sanders, 4810 Main Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64112. The record date for voting at the annual meeting is January 5, 2009. Any shareholder wanting to submit a proposal for consideration at the annual meeting should submit such proposal in compliance with the Company's bylaws no later than December 19, 2008 to: Robert Schuller, Corporate Secretary, 4100 N. Mulberry Drive, Suite 200, Kansas City, Missouri 64116, or email to bschuller@aipc.com.

ABOUT AIPC

Founded in 1988 and based in Kansas City, Missouri, American Italian Pasta Company is the largest producer of dry pasta in North America. The Company has four plants that are located in Excelsior Springs, Missouri; Columbia, South Carolina; Tolleson, Arizona and Verolanuova, Italy. The Company has approximately 600 employees located in the United States and Italy.

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