



Gary Goode, CPA, Appointed to Universal Forest Products, Inc. Board of Directors

March 24, 2003

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Mar 24, 2003 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- Universal Forest Products, Inc. (Nasdaq: UFPI) today announced that it has appointed Gary Goode to its Board of Directors.

Goode, 58, spent his working career at Arthur Andersen LLP (Andersen), which he joined in 1972 after graduating from Western Michigan University. He was admitted to the partnership at Andersen in 1982 and spent eleven years as managing partner of the Grand Rapids, MI office. Much of Goode's career at Andersen was spent serving public companies.

Goode, who is a Certified Public Accountant, retired from Andersen in March of 2001. Since then, he has served as an independent consultant and as an active volunteer in his West Michigan community.

Mr. Goode will stand for election for a two-year term at Universal's April 16, 2003 shareholder meeting. He is expected to serve on the board's audit committee.

"We are pleased Gary has agreed to join our Board. He brings a wealth of financial experience and knowledge to Universal and will be a strong addition to our Audit Committee," said Peter F. Secchia, UFPI's chairman of the board. "He is an independent thinker who will add much to our efforts to guide our strong management team and make the best decisions for our company and our stakeholders. Gary will be an able and valuable leader for Universal and will join an already strong Board of Directors."

Universal Forest Products markets, manufactures, and engineers products for D-I-Y retail home centers, structural lumber products for the manufactured housing industry, engineered wood components for the site-built construction market and specialty wood packaging for various industries. For information about Universal Forest Products on the Internet, please contact the Company's web site at www.ufpi.com , or call 888-Buy-UFPI.

SOURCE Universal Forest Products, Inc.

CONTACT: Michael R. Cole, Chief Financial Officer of Universal Forest Products, Inc., +1-616-364-6161