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CONSHOHOCKEN, Pa., Feb. 12 /PRNewswire/ -- John Scardapane, Founder and Chairman of Saladworks, Inc. announced today that Vernon W. Hill II, Founder and Retired Chairman of Commerce Bancorp, has made a major investment in Saladworks and has joined the company as Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Hill commented: "John has created America's leading salad restaurant company with 88 stores and many more coming. Saladworks shares my vision that in every great company, customers can become fans if we create a memorable exciting experience. I look forward to working with the entire Saladworks team as we expand this exciting concept Nationwide. We two entrepreneurs will be a great team."

Scardapane added, "Years ago, as I was developing the infrastructure that has supported the Saladworks growth to date, I patterned our values and ideals after Vernon Hill and Commerce Bank. I am now humbled to work side by side with Vernon, who grew Commerce Bank from one office to 500 in 9 states by reinventing the customer experience. His legendary skills in branding, development and management will no doubt turbo charge Saladworks to the next level."

Vernon Hill brought new life to the banking industry almost 40 years ago. Similarly, John Scardapane defied the odds by introducing a fast casual restaurant serving entree sized salads. Both men attribute customer service to their success. Providing unmatched customer satisfaction to consumers on the east coast, both Scardapane and Hill worked concurrently to change the face of their respective industries. Years later, their common goals, culture and visions have aligned to form a partnership that will be certain to make Saladworks a household name across the entire Nation.

Saladworks, the Nation's first fresh tossed salad franchise concept, currently with 88 stores operating, will open another 42 locations in 2008. With a new nationwide development plan, Saladworks plans to open over 500 new franchised and company owned locations during the next five years. Saladworks will initially expand into New York City limits, Metro DC and Florida. <http://www.saladworks.com/>.