

**For Immediate Release**

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**THE ROMANCE AND LIFESTYLE OF TUSCANY  
MADE POSSIBLE AT NEW *CASTELLO DI CASOLE*  
RESORT AND RESIDENCE FROM TIMBERS COMPANY**

***-- Authentic Tuscan farmhouse villas are reclaimed and restored to their original grandeur at  
new 6,000-acre private retreat in Italy --***

Carbondale, CO (**July 29, 2005**) – Muse of poets, inspiration to artists, an idyllic land steeped in beauty and history – few destinations beckon discerning travelers quite like Tuscany. Indeed, who wouldn't be swept away by the rolling hillsides, enchanting medieval villages, and resplendent air of tranquility and tradition that have graced the region for centuries? Now, for prospective vacation homeowners who desire to live an authentic Italian lifestyle coupled with utmost luxury that is personalized to their individual tastes and desires, there's **Castello di Casole**, a new five-star luxury resort and residence club under development from **Timbers Company** of Carbondale, Colorado and **SV Capital** of Denver, Colorado.

Located within easy proximity of the cultural centers of Siena and Florence, the extraordinary low-density, 6,000-acre historic estate is an unmatched private resort featuring traditional and authentic "Casali" farmhouse residences and a boutique inn. Picture stone-walled manses tucked into delicate hillsides, their terra cotta-tiled roofs gleaming before sunlit mountain backdrops, and you've only begun to imagine the inviting splendor and rustic elegance of this private Tuscan retreat.

**A Unique Ownership Property**

Castello di Casole combines the best of Italian style, Tuscan rusticity and the modern amenities any international luxury homeowner expects. The resort's initial phase, which includes ownership opportunities for several traditional farmhouse villas, is currently underway. The villas, each several-hundred-years-old, are being completely restored in keeping with their original charm and further enhanced with sumptuous designs, top Italian furniture and fine points. The Casali villas range in price from \$5 million to \$6 million for whole ownership, with fractional ownership opportunities also available. Five Casali are scheduled for completion by September 2005, with two more anticipated by the end of 2005. An additional ten Casali will be built in the estate's first phase along with the restoration and completion of the centuries-old Castello on its commanding Tuscan hillside location. The Castello (castle) will open in less than two years as a luxury boutique inn of approximately 30-40 suites, with fine dining and a lavish world-class spa.

The first phase will also see the building of nine new and exuberantly contemporary villas by Italian designer Alessandro Mendini. Located just down the hill from the Castello complex, these ultra-contemporary, rectangular-shaped, bright red brick standouts will each offer a single bedroom, sitting room and full-bath, as well expansive porches from which to soak-up Tuscany.

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## *Castello di Casole Resort and Residence from Timbers Company / 2*

SV/ Timbers' Italian partner on this unique project, Guido Antonello, is the patriarch of a well-known and successful family that acquired the exceptional property and began restoring the Castello and Casali. The Antonellos' vision and ability to provide an unparalleled Italian experience combined with Timbers' expertise at private luxury resort-residence development is a great match.

Envisioned as a destination for affluent international travelers who desire all the benefits of home ownership without the hassle of maintaining a distant second-home address, Castello di Casole offers an immersion in authentic Tuscany. The historic 6,000-acre estate can be traced back to the ancient and noble Bargagli family of Siena. Excavated Etruscan artifacts, of which no small number have been found, are stored on the property as well as at nearby museums. Meanwhile, extant vineyards and olive groves are being maintained, cultivated and harvested throughout Castello di Casole, with private-label extra virgin olive oil and Chianti wine created for members to enjoy.

### **Traditional Construction Combined with Modern Amenities**

The farmhouse villas will range in space from 4,000 to 6,000 square feet and reside on 20 to 40 acres of land. Restored through a joint Italian and Timbers' architecture project, each Casale will be separately named – Gabbro, for instance, after the course-grained stone which takes its name from a Tuscan town – and will have its own layout, color scheme and stunning views. Constructed in traditional Tuscan style without wood or nails, villas are being created using indigenous building materials recycled from the property's ruins, including ancient stone, traditional terra cotta roof tiles, Murano glass and Carrera marble. Stylish features lend a traditional Italian air, such as barrel-vaulted and exposed-beam ceilings, wood-burning outdoor fireplaces, and Italian-tiled swimming pools.

Castello di Casole's villa owners will enjoy a wide wealth of luxury services and amenities – well above and beyond the usual for such an exclusive retreat. Each villa will be personalized to its owner's tastes and style. Family photos on the walls, refrigerators stocked to personal specifications, and sunflowers from property's Tuscan garden will anticipate arrival. Myriad indulgences include fine dining at the property's cafes; bi-lingual concierge; airport transportation; personal automobiles and drivers; pools, fitness and wellness spa; biking tours, horseback riding and sporting clays; personal chefs; cooking schools to inspire culinary creativity; and guided day trips to Siena, Florence and other nearby villages which dot the Tuscan countryside.

“It's one thing to live the authentic Tuscan lifestyle, another to indulge it – which is precisely the opportunity we're offering,” says **David Burden, President of Timbers Company**. “Castello di Casole is an enchanting residence for selective people, and we're certain they'll take advantage of it every way they can.”

### **Boutique Inn to be Unveiled**

Castello di Casole will see the restoration of the estate's historic Castello into a hotel complex including a 30-40-suite boutique inn with relaxed luxury and heel-clicking service of the highest order. Restored in dreamy yet traditional style by top-flight Italian designers, the Castello will be fully outfitted with contemporary amenities including world-class spa, wellness center, two fine-dining restaurants, and its own array of luxury accommodations. Perched on a hilltop with panoramic views of endless Tuscan valleys, the Castello and its complex will be the hub of activity on property, as well as the perfect perch from which to enjoy lingering lunches, breathless café stops during bike rides, and romantic walks through lovely Tuscan fields.

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**Timbers Company is Industry Leader with History of Success**

Timbers Company's reputation for developing small private luxury resort properties precedes it, forged at eminently desirable upscale addresses such as The Timbers Club, a magnificently appointed, ski-in/ski-out private mountain residence club in Snowmass, Colorado near Aspen, which sold out 288 residential memberships within two years of its opening in 2002. Other standout Timbers Company properties include the oceanfront Esperanza – An Auberge Resort in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, and The Rocks Luxury Residence Club at Pinnacle Peak in the desert bliss of North Scottsdale, Arizona. The company also has projects in the works in the Virgin Islands, on the Mexican Mayan Riviera, and in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Regardless of the location, Timbers Company strives for and has achieved an exceptional method for combining beautiful environments with privacy, personal service and luxury while eliminating the obligations of traditional home ownership to make the transition to a resort vacation experience as seamless as possible.

Founded in 1999 by President David Burden, Timbers Company's success results from its ability to create exceptional private resorts that foster a sense of personal ownership and cater to the lifestyle of discerning vacationers. With this experience, the company has developed a unique combination of elements that give its destinations a distinct advantage over their competitors: spectacular one-of-a-kind destinations; deliberately low-density environments of successful, like-minded people; a private club atmosphere focused on service; and beautifully developed residences that very selective people will want to own as a legacy for their families.

**For more marketing information on Castello di Casole, please contact Amy Thomas at Timbers Company at (970) 963-4626, or visit [www.timberscompany.com](http://www.timberscompany.com).**

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