Press Contact:
nkba@sharpthink.com

NKBA Announces 2027 Board of Directors

Scott Edmunds, Senior Vice President of Marketing, Kohler Co. Elected Board Chair

Bethlehem, PA – (Nov. 17, 2026) — The National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA), the leading association for manufacturers, designers, retailers, builders, remodelers and architects across all segments of home design, with a focus on kitchen and bath and owners of the Kitchen and Bath Industry Show (KBIS), has announced its 2027 Board of Directors. Scott Edmunds, Senior Vice President, Kohler Company, has been elected Chair of NKBA's 2027 Board of Directors, effective January 1, 2027. He succeeds Kerrie Kelly, CEO and Creative Director, Kerrie Kelly Studio.

"It's an honor to serve as Chair of the NKBA Board of Directors and help lead the organization into its next chapter at such an important moment for our industry," said Scott Edmunds, SVP of Marketing, Kohler. "The kitchen and bath business is evolving rapidly, as design, craft, and technology converge to create new possibilities for how we experience our homes. I look forward to working with the board and NKBA's members to champion new ideas, strengthen relationships across our industry, and ensure NKBA continues to be a powerful voice and resource for our community."

In addition to Edmunds, Michael Gross, Senior Vice President, Whirlpool Corporation, has been elected Vice Chair and returning board member Jill Ehnes, President of Delta Faucet Company and North America Plumbing, will assume the position of NKBA Board Secretary/Treasurer.

"The kitchen and bath industry is evolving and so is NKBA – with clear purpose and momentum," said Bill Darcy, NKBA Global President and CEO. "With Scott Edmunds as Chair and a Board that blends fresh perspectives with experienced leadership, we are embracing this moment with confidence. Their guidance will help us transform the industry's future into new opportunities for our members at every level."

The new 2027 board members, who join existing board members Alena Capra, CMKBD, Owner and Creative Director of Alena Capra Designs; Nicola Bertazzoni**,** Chief Operating Officer, Bertazzoni Group; Peri Friedman, COO, Fabuwood, are: Thomas Ike, Executive Vice President, Lutron Electronics Co., Inc.; Mary Putman, CMO/VP Marketing & Brand, GE Appliances, a Haier Company; and Jana Shönfeld, Managing Director, Hettich Group. Below is the complete list of the 2027 NKBA Board Members, who will officially take their positions January 1, 2027.

2027 NKBA BOARD OFFICERS



Scott Edmunds, Chair

Sr. Vice President of Marketing, Kohler Co., Kohler, WI
Scott is responsible for overall Kohler Co. brand marketing strategy and execution across the Kohler Co. family of businesses. This includes Performance, Digital, Channel, and Campaign Marketing strategies for omnichannel sales targets for all businesses and product categories for Kohler and Sterling brands across DTC, Retail/E-tail, Professional, and Trade Channels. Prior to this role, Scott served as Vice President of Marketing for Global Faucets – Kohler Brand. In this role, Scott oversaw the Marketing and Product Development of Kohler Faucets around the globe. He joined Kohler Co. in 2000.



Michael Gross, Vice Chair
Senior Vice President, Whirlpool, Benton Harbor, MI

Michael Gross serves as Senior Vice President, Brands and Product, for Whirlpool Corporation. In this role, he leads the overall category business units and brands for Whirlpool's North American $10+ billion business. He and his team oversee end-to-end category strategy from concept to commercialization, driving product innovation, merchandising, and brand creative, marketing and portfolio execution across Whirlpool Corp.'s iconic family of brands. Together, they are shaping the future of how consumers experience the home.

Over his 20-year career with Whirlpool, Michael has held leadership roles spanning sales, marketing, operations, finance, and general management across both major and small appliance businesses. He has built high-performing teams and delivered sustained growth through brand-led innovation, operational excellence, and deep customer partnerships.

A passionate advocate for the kitchen and bath industry, Michael brings to the NKBA Board a leadership philosophy grounded in collaboration, innovation, and the pursuit of exceptional consumer experiences.



Jill Ehnes, Secretary/Treasurer
President, Delta Faucet Company and North America Plumbing, Indianapolis, IN

As President of a multi-brand, multi-category plumbing organization with operations in North America and Asia, Jill Ehnes is responsible for developing and driving the Company's strategy, expanding the product and category footprint, and delivering superior results while nurturing a culture of innovation and passion for winning together.

Jill joined Delta Faucet Company in 2002 and has held a variety of leadership roles in information services, new product development, customer solutions, human resources, and omnichannel retail. In her previous role as vice president, omnichannel retail, Jill developed an interconnected, decision-maker focused strategy and mindset to quickly respond to changing business and market conditions ensuring a seamless omnichannel purchase experience. Jill also led the acquisition of Kraus, a leading brand of sinks, faucets, and related accessories, and introduced Delta® branded sinks. Additionally, she served as Vice President of Human Resources from 2012 to 2019, where she designed and executed the DFC strategic planning process, created and implemented the company's employer brand, and led human resources through significant transformation.

2027 NKBA BOARD MEMBERS

Alena Capra, CMKBD
Owner and Creative Director, Alena Capra Designs, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Alena Capra is an award-winning interior designer, television host, and spokesperson. A graduate of the University of Miami and the Metropolitan Institute of Design, Alena is the owner and creative director of Fort Lauderdale-based Alena Capra Designs, a full-service interior design firm specializing in residential interiors, kitchens, and baths.

A Certified Master Kitchen & Bath Designer and longtime member of the NKBA, Alena is currently serving her second year on the association's Board of Directors. She was named *Kitchen & Bath Business* magazine's *2024 Person of the Year.*

Alena is the host of *SoFlo Home Project* on Miami's WPLG Local 10. Her television career also includes behind-the-scenes design work and on-camera roles for programming that aired on *HGTV, Lifetime, FYI,* and the *History Channel*.

Alena serves as Designer in Residence for the *CAFÉ Style Studio* and is a longtime Industry Ambassador for *Coverings*, North America's premier tile and stone exhibition. She authors a monthly home design column in *Aventura Magazine and* is also committed to giving back to the community through her charitable involvement with various organizations such as *Make-A-Wish Foundation and Ronald McDonald House*.

Nicola Bertazzoni
Chief Operating Officer, Bertazzoni Group, Emilia Romagna, Italy

Bertazzoni holds a master's degree in industrial engineering from the University of Modena, Italy. Nicola started his professional career in the automotive business, working for the joint venture between General Motors and Fiat, prior to holding management positions at Fiat Group in Italy, and Toyota Europe HQ in Belgium. In 2008 he joined the 6th generation family-owned major appliance business. After serving in multiple roles, he assumed the position of VP Sales in 2012 with a focus on global sales, and set up subsidiaries for the corporation throughout Europe, Asia, and the Americas as part of a business development strategy in the key markets. Nicola is President/Director of all subsidiaries, including Bertazzoni North America Inc., the US & Canadian business unit. In 2021 he assumed the role of Chief Operating Officer for the entire Bertazzoni Group overseeing the company worldwide.

Peri Friedman
COO, Fabuwood, Newark, NJ

Peri Friedman is Chief Operating Officer of Fabuwood Cabinetry, a leading semi-custom cabinetry manufacturer based in Newark, New Jersey. Since joining at the company's founding in 2009, Peri has

helped shape Fabuwood into an industry leader, overseeing production, technology, sales, and logistics with a focus on operational excellence and continuous innovation.

As COO and Integrator, Peri translates Fabuwood's vision into action, implementing lean manufacturing practices, leading the industry's adoption of AI and advanced technology, and building systems that enable faster turnaround and greater consistency for the design and construction professionals who specify Fabuwood products. She played a central role in the acquisition and integration of Plain & Fancy Custom Cabinetry, expanding the company's design offerings and market reach.

Known for cultivating a collaborative, high-performing culture, Peri empowers teams to solve problems creatively and respond nimbly to the evolving needs of the Kitchen & Bath and Architecture & Design communities, strengthening Fabuwood's reputation for speed, quality, and manufacturing innovation.

Thomas Ike
Executive Vice President, Lutron Electronics, Co., Inc., Coopersburg, PA

Tom joined Lutron in 1994 and has held the positions of Vice President of North American Sales, General Manager of the Commercial Systems Business Unit, and Vice President of Global Sales. He serves on Lutron's Senior Executive Board.

In 2014, he became the Owner and Chief Executive Officer of Chelsea Lighting, a position he held until rejoining Lutron in 2022.

With over 35 years of lighting and lighting control experience, he is a speaker and panelist at conferences and events focused on sustainable design and construction and a member of the National Association of Electrical Distributors.

Tom is a member of the Board of Trustees for the National Building Museum, the Policy Advisory Board of the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University, and the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Committee Board of Directors.

Tom earned a BA from Moravian University. A proud Greyhound, in 2012, he was inducted into the Moravian University Athletic Hall of Fame. Tom received post-graduate executive education at the Harvard Business School and the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business.

Mary Putman
CMO/VP Marketing & Brand, GE Appliances, a Haier Company, Louisville, KY

Mary leads GE Appliances' marketing strategy and House of Brands, including Monogram, CAFÉ, GE Profile, GE Appliances, Haier, Hotpoint, Bodewell, Recreational Living, SmartHQ and Air & Water.

At KBIS, Mary has helped create distinctive experiences that bring GE Appliances' innovations to life and build lasting relationships with designers, builders, retailers and other industry professionals. Her team earned KBIS booth design recognition in 2019, 2020, 2022 and 2023. Mary has also served as an advisor to NKBA's Women to Women initiative, championing mentorship, connection and leadership opportunities

across the industry. She has spearheaded GE Appliances' sponsorship of the conference since its launch, continuing through its fifth year in 2026.

Before GE Appliances, Mary was Global Associate Brand Director for Personal Cleansing at Procter & Gamble Beauty. She has been recognized as The Home Depot's 2022 Marketing Partner Award for innovative marketing strategies, BrandSource's 2020 Women's Trailblazer Award and a 2015 Bronze Effie Award for her work at P&G. She holds an MBA from the University of Notre Dame, played Division I tennis at Boston College, serves on the boards of Family Scholar House and the Louisville Downtown Partnership, and is a founding member of Impact100.

Jana Schönfeld
Managing Director, Hettich Group, Kirchlengern, Germany

Since joining Hettich in 2017, Jana has played a key role in shaping the strategy, transformation journey, and long-term development of the Group–one of the world's leading manufacturers of furniture fittings.

Her current focus includes strategy, transformation and culture, with a strong commitment to fostering global collaboration, building networks and identifying opportunities that shape the future of the business.

Prior to joining Hettich, Jana held a number of senior leadership positions within large international corporate groups. Her experience spans general management, finance and controlling, human resources, governance, organizational transformation. She holds a degree in Business Law and currently serves on the Customer Advisory Boards of Landesbank Baden-Württemberg and Deutsche Bank, as well as on the University Council of Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences and in the advisory board of Heinz-Glas Group (a leading manufacturer of luxury fragrance flacons and premium packaging for the global beauty industry).

As a respected thought leader in global business and market strategy as well as corporate culture, Jana Schönfeld is regularly approached by industry media and business leaders for her insights and perspectives.

Visit this link to download headshots of the 2027 NKBA Board of Directors.

About the National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA) and the Kitchen & Bath Industry Show (KBIS)
NKBA is the not-for-profit trade association that owns the Kitchen & Bath Industry Show® (KBIS). With 55,000 members in all segments of the kitchen and bath industry, the NKBA has informed, educated, and supported the industry since the association was founded in 1963. The mission of the NKBA is to inspire, lead, and empower the kitchen and bath industry through community, professional certification, and learning and events.

For more information, go to NKBA.org or call 1-800-THE-NKBA (843-6522). KBIS® and NKBA® are registered trademarks of the National Kitchen & Bath Association.

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