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# **RoyOMartin Marks 100th Anniversary of Company Founding**

Alexandria, LA – (February 7, 2023) – This year, RoyOMartin celebrates the founding of Roy O. Martin Lumber Company, which was legally organized and incorporated in Alexandria, Louisiana, in 1923. Led by Indiana native Roy O. Martin, Sr., the company was borne after the entrepreneur's purchase of an older sawmill and began without a single acre of land. Today, the trade name RoyOMartin represents a group of vertically integrated companies owned by the Martin family, focused on sustainable land and timber management and wood-product manufacturing businesses.

RoyOMartin is an established American company, using only domestic raw materials in the manufacture of our superior wood products. We bear the mantle of the Martin family's 100-year reputation as a timber-industry leader. We are committed to the safety and well-being of our employees, now and for generations to come.

"For 100 years, the Martin family has built a business model demonstrating corporate responsibility benefiting its shareholders, stakeholders, team members, and our families," states Roy O. Martin III, grandson of Martin Sr., who oversees the company's operations as Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Financial Officer.

In addition to being a leader in responsible forest-management practices and overseeing approximately 550,000 acres of highly-productive timberland, RoyOMartin and its subsidiaries currently operate three manufacturing facilities supported by nearly 1,300 employees: an oriented strand board plant in Oakdale, Louisiana; plywood and solid wood products plant in Chopin, Louisiana; and an oriented strand board plant in Corrigan, Texas, which is currently expanding by constructing a second mill at the site.

"RoyOMartin will continue producing forestry products that are essential to modern life and economic development in a way that protects people, the environment, and our communities," Martin states.

## Beginnings

In 1923, after working in the lumber industry in Indiana, Illinois, and Tennessee for 11 years, 33-year-old Roy Otis Martin Sr. wanted to go into business for himself. He wanted to buy a sawmill in an area where lumber was reasonably inexpensive. His search took him to Alexandria, Louisiana, where he'd heard about a mill for sale. He and his wife Mildred purchased the nearly dilapidated Creston Sawmill, located on Fenner Street, for \$32,000. It included the plant, office, and equipment, but not a single acre of land. On November 10, 1923, the Roy O. Martin Lumber Company was officially organized and incorporated, with Roy O. Martin as its president.

The company has thrived through a variety of changes and challenges in its 100 years – from sawmills and lumberyards to retail outlets, creosote treating, real estate, and wood-product manufacturing – to become a timber-and-manufacturing industry leader. In 1929 Martin Sr. made his first land purchase when he bought 6,500 acres in the Black

Lake swamp area in northwest Louisiana. Since then, timberland holdings have grown exponentially to become one of the largest private landowners in the state.

Throughout three generations, the Martin family has remained in management roles. In 1962, company leadership passed to the second generation, with Roy O. Martin Jr. serving as president, followed by his brother Ellis Martin in 1978. The third generation took the helm in 1994 when Jonathan Martin (Ellis's son) and, later, Roy O. Martin III assumed the top positions of president and chief executive officer.

### **Values and Visions**

Today, our organizational leaders still abide by the same principles held by the company's founder: Respect, Integrity, Commitment, Honesty, Excellence, and Stewardship. Those values, known by the acronym RICHES, guide everyday decisions.

"We will continue to demonstrate *respect* for each person uniquely created by God; *integrity* in what we do; *commitment* to our business, shareholders, and stakeholders; *honesty* in our interactions with others; *excellence* in our processes, including world-class safety, product quality, employee benefits, training, and manufacturing; and *stewardship* and generosity of our assets. These principles are an essential part of our values to make our communities better because of our business," Martin affirms.

With the ambitious start of his own company 100 years ago, Roy O. Martin, Sr. etched a deep mark in the Great American Story of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. His triumph was America's success, and his legacy of family values and savvy business decisions carries on into a new century for years to come.

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#### About RoyOMartin

Martco L.L.C. is a subsidiary of Martin Sustainable Resources L.L.C., the Martin family-owned parent to several companies that focus on land, timber, and mineral resources, emphasizing sustainable forestry and the manufacture of forest products. It is best known by its trade name RoyOMartin, which honors the entrepreneurial spirit of Roy O. Martin, Sr. who began the family's first business (a sawmill operation) in 1923. RoyOMartin currently operates two manufacturing facilities in Louisiana. A third facility is operated in Texas by its wholly-owned Texas subsidiary, with a fourth facility currently under construction. With more than 1,200 employees, we are a leading employer in every region in which we operate. For more information, visit <u>www.royomartin.com</u>.