

**HILLMAN GROUP CAPITAL TRUST ANNOUNCES CASH DISTRIBUTION  
ON TRUST PREFERRED SECURITIES**

Cincinnati, OH (December 9, 2011) - The Hillman Companies, Inc. ("Hillman" or the "Company"), - Max W. Hillman, Chief Executive Officer of The Hillman Companies, Inc. announced today that a cash distribution has been declared by Hillman Group Capital Trust for the month of December 2011 in the amount of \$.241667 for each Trust Preferred Security (NYSE-Amex: HLM\_P). The distribution will be payable December 30, 2011 to holders of record December 20, 2011.

Hillman sells to hardware stores, home centers, pet suppliers, mass merchants, and other retail outlets principally in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Australia and South America. Their product line includes thousands of small parts such as fasteners and related hardware items, keys, key duplication systems, and identification items, such as tags, letters, numbers and signs. Services offered include design and installation of merchandising systems and maintenance of appropriate in-store inventory levels.

*For more information on the Company, please visit our website at <http://www.hillmangroup.com>  
or call Investor Relations at (513) 851-4900, ext. 2084*