

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Epicurean Group Founder To Describe Pathway to Entrepreneurial Success in Upcoming Leadership Webinar

<u>Epicurean Group</u> founder and CEO Mary Clark Bartlett will serve as a panelist on the <u>Society for Foodservice Management</u> (SFM) Leadership Webinar: "From the Ground Up: Pathways to Entrepreneurial Success," on Tuesday, February 7, from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. PST. Epicurean Group is a food service management company based in Northern California.

The first webinar of the SFM Distinguished Leadership Series will feature interviews with founders of three food service companies from across the country, including Bartlett, Bob Whitcomb from Whitson's Culinary Group in New York and Nancy Sharp from Food for Thought in Chicago.

Ira Kaplan, president and CEO of Irinox USA, is the webinar moderator. "Each of these exceptional leaders started and grew enterprises in an industry already crowded with stiff competition. We'll be talking about their roots, how they grew their business and their projections for the future of our industry," said Kaplan.

"I knew from the start that it wouldn't be easy, building a values-based company focused on healthy, local food and competing with the "Big Three," said Bartlett. "But our business model has been a win-win strategy: our sustainable purchasing practices encourage the growth of regional organic farms and ranches. And, in turn, our clients benefit from fresher, higher quality ingredients."

The webinar is open to the public. There is no charge for SFM members and a \$20 non-member registration fee. To register, go to http://www.sfm-online.org/professional-development/webinars.

About Epicurean Group

Epicurean Group is an independent food service management company, providing restaurant and catering services to companies, distinctive dining communities and schools throughout Northern California. A values-based company, Epicurean Group is committed to socially responsible and environmentally sustainable business practices.

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