



THOMAS SPEIGHT TO BE CEO OF 2(x)IST

By Karyn Monget

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The 2(x)ist division of The Moret Group has poached Thomas Speight, a top executive from The Warnaco Group Inc., to be its new chief executive officer.

He comes to 2(x)ist after three years with Warnaco, where he was president and managing director of the Calvin Klein Jeans and Calvin Klein Underwear units. At Warnaco, Speight oversaw sales, retail operations, merchandising, forecasting and planning as well as regional marketing. Speight has also held top posts at apparel companies including the Kate Spade and Sigrid Olsen brands at Liz Claiborne Inc., now Fifth & Pacific Co. Inc., and at Sara Lee Intimate Apparel before it was spun off to Hanesbrands Inc. in 2006.

At 2(x)ist, Speight will report to Joey Harary, ceo of Moret. He will start in mid-June.

Harary, whose company introduced the 2(x)ist brand in the early Nineties, said Speight will add marketing and merchandising skills to grow the brand's exposure in the international marketplace.

Harary said Speight will be responsible for expanding the 2(x)ist business worldwide and will oversee all aspects of managing and growing the brand into new categories. In the past few years, 2(x)ist has launched men's swim and sock collections as well as watches, and it is currently exploring body-care and fragrance licenses.

"Our plans are to explode this brand and break it out with worldwide recognition. We've been looking for this unique opportunity for a long time," said Harary. "Thomas has a lot of knowledge from the Calvin Klein business and at Kate Spade, where he's had a lot of experience building international businesses and licensees."

Harary added that expansion plans include opening the first 2(x)ist store in New York City by 2015. The company operates several 2(x)ist freestanding boutiques and in-store shops at department stores in China, Malaysia and Singapore.