

For Details, Contact:

Eric Johnson  
Westport Outfitters, LLC  
44 Cal Pasture Beach Rd.  
Norwalk, CT 06855

Phone 203-831-8036  
Fax 203-831-8591  
ejohnson@westportoutfitters.com

## news release

### Westport Outfitters Announces New Ownership

*Lifelong angler and boating enthusiast, Eric Johnson trades corporate career for the lure of the ocean; vows to provide customers with the ultimate fishing and boating experience.*

**Norwalk, CT, July 21, 2005:** Westport Outfitters ([www.westportoutfitters.com](http://www.westportoutfitters.com)), supplier of everything for the ultimate angling and boating experience, is proud to announce it is now operating under new ownership. Former Wall Street professional and lifelong fishing and boating enthusiast, Eric C. Johnson took ownership of Westport Outfitters in June.

Building on the store's 20-year tradition of serving Connecticut and New York residents, Westport Outfitters will be expanding under its new ownership to offer a broader array of products and services, including: individual and group instruction (fly fishing, casting and fly tying lessons), professional boat sales and service, local and remote chartering offerings, and a wide variety of tackle, rods, reels, lures and educational materials -- everything under the sun for the recreational angler and boater's carefree enjoyment. Westport Outfitters is the newest northeast dealer for the legendary line of saltwater boats from Ranger, as well as Pilot and Bristol Skiff, manufactured by Holby Marine in Bristol, Rhode Island.

I am honored to take the helm of this respected establishment, which has earned a reputation as the place to go for expert guidance on boating and fishing in Long Island Sound and beyond, says Johnson. I look forward to building on this tradition in the years to come and taking this business to the next level.

**For Release 9 a.m. EDT  
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Eric Johnson is a former executive in the financial services industry, with more than 10 years of experience at well-known firms such as Citigroup, Skandia and Prudential Financial. Before his work on Wall Street, he served as a professional dive master and skipper transporting boats in the West Indies. Johnson will be completing an MBA with a concentration in Marketing in the fall of 2005. He was born and raised in Essex, CT and currently resides in Fairfield.

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