



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Russell Grain Elevator Tragedy Leaves Industry Saddened**

TOPEKA, June 25, 2010 – The Kansas Grain and Feed Association’s members and staff are grieved to learn of yesterday’s grain elevator collapse in Russell. KGFA expresses its deepest sympathy to the families of the two young men that lost their lives in this unforeseen structural failure.

“On behalf of the Kansas Grain and Feed Association, I want to convey our sincere sadness over these hardworking employees that passed away at our member’s facility in Russell yesterday,” Gary Gantz, KGFA Chairman, said. “It’s unfortunate and tragic when a fatality happens in any industry.”

While the grain handling trade can sometimes pose risk, elevators in Kansas place employee safety as a top priority in their day-to-day business operation. Grain storage facilities are strictly regulated by several state and federal agencies, and KGFA members invest extensive amounts of time and resources to ensure their workers remain protected.

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About KGFA: Founded in 1896, the Topeka-based Kansas Grain and Feed Association is a voluntary non-profit, trade organization providing governmental representation, educational opportunities and a wide variety of other services to the vast and indispensable grain and feed marketing system. KGFA’s 900 plus members include country elevators, subterminal and terminal elevators, feed manufacturers, flour mills, grain merchandisers and allied industries such as grain exchanges, equipment manufacturers, insurance firms and railroads. KGFA is proud to represent 99% of the federal or state licensed grain storage in the state of Kansas.