



Costco Wholesale Corporation Announces New Board Member

October 14, 2004

ISSAQUAH, Wash.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 13, 2004--Costco Wholesale Corporation (Nasdaq: COST) today announced the election of Susan Decker, chief financial officer and executive vice president of finance and administration for Yahoo! Inc., to its board of directors. Prior to joining Yahoo! in June 2000, Decker was with Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette for fourteen years in equity research, most recently serving as the global director of equity research.

Jeff Brotman, Chairman of the Board stated: "The Board and the Company are very pleased to have Ms. Decker serve as a director. Her breadth of experience in the arenas of strategy, finance and Internet products and services will be an asset to our Company."

Costco currently operates 443 warehouses, including 328 in the United States and Puerto Rico, 63 in Canada, 15 in the United Kingdom, five in Korea, three in Taiwan, five in Japan and 24 in Mexico. The Company also operates Costco Online, an electronic commerce web site, at www.costco.com. The Company plans to open nine additional new warehouses (including the relocation of two existing warehouses to larger and better-located facilities) prior to the end of the 2004 calendar year.

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