



## Costco Wholesale Corporation Reports January Sales Results

February 8, 2001

ISSAQUAH, Wash.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb. 8, 2001--Costco Wholesale Corporation ("Costco" or the "Company") (Nasdaq:COST) today reported net sales of \$2.95 billion for the five weeks ended February 4, 2001, an increase of 10 percent from \$2.68 billion in the same five-week period of the prior fiscal year. On a comparable warehouse basis, that is warehouses open at least a year, sales increased 4 percent. This year's five-week period included 34 days of sales compared to 35 days during the year-earlier period, reflecting the timing of the New Year's Holiday.

For the first twenty-two weeks of its 2001 fiscal year ended February 4, 2001, the Company reported net sales of \$14.45 billion, an increase of 9 percent from \$13.30 billion during the comparable period of the prior fiscal year. Comparable warehouse sales for the year-to-date period increased 3 percent over the prior year's level.

The Company plans to release its earnings results for the second quarter of fiscal year 2001 (the 12 weeks ending February 18, 2001) along with February sales results (the 4 weeks ending March 4, 2001) on March 8, 2001. A conference call to discuss these results is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. (PST), March 8, 2001, and is available via a webcast on [www.costco.com](http://www.costco.com) (go to Customer Service, Investor Relations, Financial Releases and click on the "Live Webcast" icon).

Costco currently operates 350 warehouses, including 252 in the United States, 59 in Canada, 11 in the United Kingdom, four in Korea, three in Taiwan, two in Japan and 19 in Mexico. The Company also operates Costco Online, an electronic commerce web site, at [www.costco.com](http://www.costco.com).

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