



Costco Wholesale Corporation Reports May Sales Results

June 7, 2001

ISSAQUAH, Wash., Jun 7, 2001 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Costco Wholesale Corporation ("Costco" or the "Company") (Nasdaq: COST) today reported net sales of \$2.67 billion for the four weeks ended June 3, 2001, an increase of 14 percent from \$2.35 billion in the same four-week period of the prior fiscal year. On a comparable warehouse basis, that is warehouses open at least a year, sales increased 6 percent.

For the first thirty-nine weeks of its 2001 fiscal year ended June 3, 2001, the Company reported net sales of \$25.21 billion, an increase of 10 percent from \$22.97 billion during the comparable period of the prior fiscal year. Comparable warehouse sales for the year-to-date period increased 4 percent over the prior year's level.

Costco currently operates 362 warehouses, including 261 in the United States, 60 in Canada, 11 in the United Kingdom, five in Korea, three in Taiwan, two in Japan and 20 in Mexico. The Company also operates Costco Online, an electronic commerce web site, at www.costco.com. The Company plans to open three additional new warehouses prior to the end of its 2001 fiscal year on September 2, 2001, and an additional 26 to 28 new warehouses (including four to five relocations of existing warehouses to larger and better-located facilities) prior to the end of calendar year 2001.

CONTACT: Costco Wholesale Corporation
Richard Galanti, 425/313-8203
Bob Nelson, 425/313-8255