



## Costco Wholesale Corporation Reports December Sales Results

January 4, 2007

ISSAQUAH, WA -- (MARKET WIRE) -- January 04, 2007 -- Costco Wholesale Corporation ("Costco") (NASDAQ: [COST](#)) today reported net sales of \$7.24 billion for the month of December, the five weeks ended December 31, 2006, an increase of 14 percent from \$6.37 billion in the same five-week period last year.

For the first eighteen weeks of its reporting period ended December 31, 2006, the Company reported net sales of \$22.23 billion, an increase of 10 percent from \$20.22 billion during the similar eighteen-week period of the prior year.

Comparable sales for the five-week and eighteen-week periods ended December 31, 2006, were as follows:

	5 Weeks	18 Weeks
US	9%	5%
International	10%	11%
Total Company	9%	6%

This year's five-week period included 34 days of sales compared to 33 days last year, reflecting the timing of the New Year's holiday. This shift impacted this year's total company comparable sales positively by approximately three percent.

Additional discussion of these sales results is available on a pre-recorded telephone message. You can access the recording by dialing 1-800-642-1687 (conference ID 5567691). This recorded message will be available today through 5:00 p.m. (PT) on Friday, January 5, 2007.

Costco currently operates 504 warehouses, including 371 in the United States and Puerto Rico, 70 in Canada, 19 in the United Kingdom, five in Korea, four in Taiwan, five in Japan and 30 in Mexico. The Company also operates Costco Online, an electronic commerce web site, at [www.costco.com](http://www.costco.com) and at [www.costco.ca](http://www.costco.ca) in Canada. The Company plans to open an additional sixteen to eighteen new warehouses prior to the end of its 52-week 2007 fiscal year ending on September 2, 2007.

Certain statements contained in this document and the pre-recorded telephone message constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. For these purposes, forward-looking statements are statements that address activities, events, conditions or developments that the Company expects or anticipates may occur in the future. Such forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause actual events, results or performance to differ materially from those indicated by such statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, domestic and international economic conditions including exchange rates, the effects of competition and regulation, consumer and small business spending patterns and debt levels, conditions affecting the acquisition, development, ownership or use of real estate, actions of vendors, rising costs associated with employees (including health care and workers' compensation costs), rising costs associated with the acquisition of merchandise (including the direct and indirect effects of the rising cost of petroleum-based products and fuel and energy costs), geopolitical conditions and other risks identified from time to time in the Company's public statements and reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.



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SOURCE: Costco