



Costco Wholesale Corporation Reports April Sales Results

May 6, 2010

ISSAQUAH, WA, May 06, 2010 (MARKETWIRE via COMTEX) --Costco Wholesale Corporation ("Costco" or the "Company") (NASDAQ: COST) today reported net sales of \$5.83 billion for the month of April, the four weeks ended May 2, 2010, an increase of 13 percent from \$5.18 billion in the same four-week period last year. This year's four-week period for April included 28 days of sales compared to 27 last year; Easter fell in the reporting month of April last year. This calendar shift positively impacted this year's April total and comparable sales by approximately two to three percent.

For the thirty-five weeks ended May 2, 2010, the Company reported net sales of \$51.04 billion, an increase of 9 percent from \$46.66 billion during the similar period last year.

Comparable sales for the periods ended May 2, 2010, were as follows:

	4 Weeks	35 Weeks
U.S.	6%	4%
International	29%	22%
Total Company	11%	7%

Inflation in gasoline prices and strengthening foreign currencies had a positive impact on comparable sales. Excluding these effects, the April and year-to-date comparable sales were as follows:

	4 Weeks	35 Weeks
U.S.	3%	2%
International	10%	9%
Total Company	4%	3%

Additional discussion of these sales results is available in a pre-recorded telephone message. You can access the recording by dialing 1-800-642-1687 (conference ID 44186110). This message will be available today through 5:00 p.m. (PT) on Friday, May 7, 2010.

Costco currently operates 567 warehouses, including 414 in the United States and Puerto Rico, 77 in Canada, 21 in the United Kingdom, seven in Korea, six in Taiwan, nine in Japan, one in Australia and 32 in Mexico. The Company also operates Costco Online, an electronic commerce web site, at www.costco.com and at www.costco.ca in Canada. The Company plans to open up to six additional new warehouses prior to the end of its fiscal year on August 29, 2010.

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, uncertainties in the financial markets, 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 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