



Costco Wholesale Corporation Reports August, Fourth Quarter and Fiscal Year 2015 Sales Results

September 3, 2015

ISSAQUAH, WA -- (Marketwired) -- 09/02/15 -- Costco Wholesale Corporation ("Costco" or the "Company") (NASDAQ: COST) today reported net sales of \$8.7 billion for the month of August, the four weeks ended August 30, 2015, a decrease of one percent from \$8.8 billion during the similar period last year.

For the 16-week fourth quarter, the Company reported net sales of \$35.0 billion, an increase of one percent from \$34.8 billion in the fourth quarter last year, which ended August 31, 2014.

For the 52-week fiscal year ended August 30, 2015, the Company reported net sales of \$113.7 billion, an increase of three percent from the \$110.2 billion reported last year.

Comparable sales for the four, sixteen, and fifty-two week periods were as follows:

	<u>4 Weeks</u>	<u>16 Weeks</u>	<u>52 Weeks</u>
U.S.	1 %	2 %	3 %
International	-11 %	-9 %	-4 %
Total Company	<u>-2 %</u>	<u>-1 %</u>	<u>1 %</u>

Comparable sales for these periods, excluding the negative impacts from gasoline price deflation and foreign exchange, were as follows:

	<u>4 Weeks</u>	<u>16 Weeks</u>	<u>52 Weeks</u>
U.S.	5 %	6 %	6 %
International	7 %	7 %	7 %
Total Company	<u>5 %</u>	<u>6 %</u>	<u>7 %</u>

Additional discussion of these results is available in a pre-recorded telephone message. The recording can be accessed by dialing 1-855-859-2056 (conference ID 94066124). This message will be available today through 5:00 p.m. (PT) on Friday, September 4, 2015.

The Company plans to release its operating results for the fourth quarter and fiscal year ended August 30, 2015, on September 29, 2015. A conference call to discuss these results is scheduled for 8:00 a.m. (PT), September 30, 2015, and will be available via webcast on www.costco.com (click on Investor Relations and "webcasts").

Costco currently operates 686 warehouses, including 480 in the United States and Puerto Rico, 89 in Canada, 36 in Mexico, 27 in the United Kingdom, 23 in Japan, 12 in Korea, 11 in Taiwan, seven in Australia and one in Spain. The Company plans to open up to an additional 14 new warehouses (including two relocations) before the end of calendar year 2015. Costco also operates electronic commerce web sites in the U.S., Canada, the United Kingdom and Mexico.

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, breaches of security or privacy of member or business information, conditions affecting the acquisition, development, ownership or use of real estate, capital spending, actions of vendors, rising costs associated with employees (generally including health care costs), energy and certain commodities, 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. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and we do not undertake to update these statements, except as required by law.

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Source: Costco