



## Costco Wholesale Corporation Reports May Sales Results

June 2, 2016

ISSAQUAH, WA -- (Marketwired) -- 06/01/16 -- Costco Wholesale Corporation ("Costco" or the "Company") (NASDAQ: COST) today reported net sales of \$9.23 billion for the month of May, the four weeks ended May 29, 2016, an increase of three percent from \$8.98 billion during the similar period last year. This year May includes one additional sales day in the U.S. versus last year due to the timing of Memorial Day. This calendar shift positively impacted this year's net and comparable sales by an estimated two and one-half percent (three and one-half percent in the U.S.).

For the thirty-nine weeks ended May 29, 2016, the Company reported net sales of \$87.18 billion, an increase of two percent from \$85.31 billion during the similar period last year.

Comparable sales for the four-week and thirty-nine week periods ended May 29, 2016, were as follows:

	<u>4 Weeks</u>	<u>39 Weeks</u>
U.S.	1 %	2 %
Canada	-1 %	-5 %
Other International	-3 %	-4 %
Total Company	<u>0 %</u>	<u>0 %</u>

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

	<u>4 Weeks</u>	<u>39 Weeks</u>
U.S.	4 %	4 %
Canada	6 %	9 %
Other International	3 %	5 %
Total Company	<u>4 %</u>	<u>5 %</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 57697768). This message will be available today through 5:00 p.m. (PT) on Wednesday, June 8, 2016.

Costco currently operates 706 warehouses, including 494 in the United States and Puerto Rico, 90 in Canada, 36 in Mexico, 27 in the United Kingdom, 25 in Japan, 12 in Korea, 12 in Taiwan, eight in Australia and two in Spain. Costco also operates electronic commerce web sites in the U.S., Canada, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Korea and Taiwan.

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.

### CONTACTS:

Costco Wholesale Corporation

Richard Galanti

425/313-8203

Bob Nelson

425/313-8255

Jeff Elliott

425/313-8264

David Sherwood

425/313-8239

Source: Costco