



McCormick Reports Improved Sales And Profits

June 16, 1998  
SPRINGFIELD, MO, JUNE 16 -- McCormick & Company, Incorporated (NASDAQ:MCCB), today reported higher sales and profits for the second quarter and first six months. Earnings per share for the quarter were 22¢ versus 20¢ for the second quarter of the prior year, an increase of 10%. Net income was \$16.1 million versus \$14.8 million for the second quarter of last year, an increase of 9%. Net sales for the quarter were \$435 million, an increase of 5% over the second quarter of 1997. Earnings per share for the first six months were 44¢, up 13% over the same period of 1997. Net sales for the six months were \$851 million versus \$821 million last year, an increase of 4%.

Commented Robert J. Loucks, President & CEO, "We are pleased with double-digit sales growth in the second quarter in our U.S. consumer business. The growth initiatives for our consumer business are properly focused and beginning to result in improved revenue for this important segment of our business. New distribution announced in March did not materially contribute to this performance but will positively impact future results. We continue to experience market address in our packaging business, but we expect improvement over the last half of the year."

"In summary, our balance sheet is strong, and we believe that sales and profit growth will continue for the remainder of the year."

Second Quarter Report      McCormick & Company, Incorporated

Consolidated Income Statement (Unaudited)

(In thousands except per share data)

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	5/31/98	5/31/97	5/31/98	5/31/97
NET SALES	\$435,453	\$413,720	\$850,655	\$820,122
Cost of goods sold	294,165	279,257	576,195	549,942
Gross profit	141,288	134,463	274,460	270,180
Percentage	32.4%	32.5%	32.3%	33.0%
Selling, general and administrative expense	110,849	105,817	213,902	214,081
Operating income	30,439	28,646	60,458	57,099
Interest expense	9,358	9,583	17,687	17,684
Other (income) expense - net	(1,236)	(1,782)	(2,741)	(3,303)
Income before income taxes	22,357	21,245	40,512	42,725
Provision for income taxes	8,048	7,860	16,384	15,808
Net income from consolidated operations	14,309	13,385	24,128	26,917
Income from unconsolidated operations	1,782	1,426	3,172	3,109
NET INCOME	\$ 16,091	\$ 14,811	\$ 32,300	\$ 30,026
EARNINGS PER SHARE - BASIC	\$0.22	\$0.20	\$0.44	\$0.39

Average shares outstanding - basic	73,457	75,761	73,815	76,538
EARNINGS PER SHARE - DILUTED	\$0.22	\$0.20	\$0.44	\$0.39
Average shares outstanding - diluted	74,159	75,949	74,221	76,711

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet (Unaudited)

	5/31/98	5/31/97
Assets		
Receivables	\$ 172,098	\$ 180,929
Inventories	275,060	253,440
Prepaid allowances	158,083	146,033
Property - net	380,023	388,356
Other assets	265,003	320,514
Total assets	\$1,252,065	\$1,269,275
Liabilities and shareholders' equity		
Short-term borrowings	\$ 231,650	\$ 188,024
Other current liabilities	299,965	335,440
Long-term debt	258,971	277,818
Other liabilities	88,942	85,684
Shareholders' equity	372,537	382,309
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$1,252,065	\$1,269,275