



**McCormick Announces Increase in Quarterly Dividend**

December 18, 2000

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Dec. 18 (PRNewswire) —** The Board of Directors of McCormick & Company, Incorporated (NYSE: MKC), today approved a 5% increase in the regular quarterly cash dividend from \$0.15 to \$0.20 per share on its common stock, payable January 22, 2001, to shareholders of record December 28, 2000.

Paul Robert J. Ladd, Chairman, President & CEO, "As a result of our success in 2000 and our confidence in the future of McCormick, we are pleased to announce an increase in the quarterly dividend. We have consistently paid dividends since 1925, and we believe they represent an important component of total shareholder return. We will grow our business profitably around the world through new products, new markets and effective marketing programs. Our acquisition of Duxco was an important step to expand our leadership position. At the same time, we have initiated many programs to improve margins and help fuel growth. We believe our strategies will result in continued success and outstanding returns for our shareholders." (SOURCE: McCormick & Company, Incorporated)

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