THE J.M. SMUCKER Co

NEWS RELEASE

J. M. Smucker Announces Election of New Officer and Declares Dividend

4/18/2001

ORRVILLE, Ohio, April 18 /**PRNewswire**/ -- The J. M. Smucker Company, (NYSE: SJM), announced today that Donald D. Hurrle, Sr., currently its grocery national sales manager, has been promoted to the position of vice president - sales, grocery market, effective April 18, 2001. In his new position, Mr. Hurrle will report to the Company's vice president and general manager, consumer market, Vincent C. Byrd, and will be responsible for the Company's grocery sales operations. Since joining the Company in 1976, Mr. Hurrle has held multiple sales positions in the consumer, foodservice, and beverage businesses of the Company.

The Company also announced that the Board of Directors at its meeting today declared a 16 cents per share dividend on the Common Shares of the Company to be paid on June 1, 2001 to shareholders of record at the close of business on May 18, 2001.

The J. M. Smucker Company was founded in 1897, when the Company's namesake and founder sold his first product -- apple butter -- from the back of a horse-drawn wagon. Today, over a century later, the Company is the market leader in fruit spreads, ice cream toppings, health and natural foods beverages, and natural peanut butter in North America. The Company has over 2,000 employees worldwide and distributes products in more than 70 countries. Please visit our website at www.smucker.com to learn more about our Company and its products.
SOURCE J. M. Smucker Company

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