THE J.M. SMUCKER Co

NEWS RELEASE

J. M. Smucker Announces Executive Changes

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ORRVILLE, Ohio, Apr 19, 2002 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- The J. M. Smucker Company (NYSE: SJM) announced today that M. Ann Harlan, currently its assistant general counsel, has been elected to the position of general counsel, effective today. Ms. Harlan has been with the Company for three years, and prior to that was a partner in the Cleveland law firm of Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP.

Ms. Harlan, who is a graduate of Skidmore College and Case Western Reserve University School of Law, is also the Company's assistant secretary. She will report to the Company's vice president-finance and administration, Steven J. Ellcessor. Mr. Ellcessor is the former general counsel and has now been designated as the Company's chief financial officer.

The J. M. Smucker Company (www.smuckers.com) 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.

SOURCE J. M. Smucker Company

CONTACT: Steven J. Ellcessor, Vice President-Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer of The J. M. Smucker Company, +1-330-682-3000 URL: http://www.smuckers.com http://www.prnewswire.com

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