NEWS RELEASE

J.M. Smucker Declares Dividend Increase

4/19/2000

ORRVILLE, Ohio, April 19 /**PRNewswire**/ -- The Board of Directors of The J.M. Smucker Company (NYSE: SJM.A and SJM.B), Orrville, Ohio, has declared a 16 cents per share dividend on the Common Shares of the Company, both Class A and Class B, to be paid on June 1, 2000, to shareholders of record at the close of business on May 18, 2000. This represents a 5.3% increase in the dividend rate.

SOURCE The J.M. Smucker Company

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