NEWS RELEASE

J.M. Smucker Declares Dividend Increase

4/21/1998

ORRVILLE, Ohio, April 21 /**PRNewswire**/ -- On April 21, 1998, the Board of Directors of The J.M. Smucker Company (NYSE: SJM.A, SJM.B), Orrville, Ohio, declared a 14 cents per share dividend on the Common Shares of the Company, both Class A and Class B, to be paid on June 1, 1998, to shareholders of record at the close of business on May 18, 1998. This represents a 7.7% increase in the dividend rate.