NEWS RELEASE

The J. M. Smucker Company Announces Dividend

7/18/2003

ORRVILLE, Ohio, July 18 /**PRNewswire-FirstCall**/ -- The board of directors of The J. M. Smucker Company (NYSE: SJM) declared a $.23 per share dividend on the common shares of the Company to be paid on September 2, 2003, to shareholders of record at the close of business on August 19, 2003.

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. In June of 2002, the Company further enhanced its leadership position with the addition of Jif(R) peanut butter and Crisco(R) shortening and oils to the Smucker family of brands. For over 100 years, The J. M. Smucker Company has been headquartered in Orrville, Ohio, and has been family run for four generations. The Company has over 2,700 employees worldwide and distributes products in more than 45 countries.

SOURCE J. M. Smucker Company
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(SJM)

CO: J. M. Smucker Company

ST: Ohio
IN: FOD
SU: DIV

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