

NEWS RELEASE

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Corporate Express Launch 2007 CSR Report at Sustainability Day

Birmingham, ENGLAND – 6th October 2008 – Corporate Express Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Staples (Nasdaq: SPLS) and part of the world's largest supplier of office products, launched their 2007 Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Report at the Corporate Express Sustainability Day.

On Wednesday 3rd September 2008, Corporate Express hosted a customer Sustainability Day at The Brewery, London, which was an open forum to discuss environmental impacts, and how by working together these can be reduced.

As well as showcasing the types of socially responsible products on offer at a supplier exhibition, Corporate Express customers were invited to hear from Corporate Express' Executive Management Team about how Corporate Express is addressing CSR and more specifically, environmental issues, such as, carbon emissions and packaging.

Key environmental partners and suppliers also presented at the event, as well as Jonathon Porritt, Co-Founder and Programme Director for Forum for the Future and Chairman of the UK Sustainable Development Commission, who gave a key note speech on *Future Proofing: Coping with a World in Trouble*.

In addition to the above, the event also gave Corporate Express the opportunity to launch the 2007 CSR Report, which details their progress in addressing their social responsibilities during 2007.

Corporate Express is committed to CSR and is taking the necessary steps to improve performance and taking the time to embed social responsibility within the business.

Their focus is on:

People: Offering a safe, respectful and rewarding working environment, where people





are supported and encouraged to achieve their full potential

Customers: Understanding our customers' CSR concerns and helping them to implement their own CSR policies and programmes

Suppliers: Purchasing goods and services in an environmentally and socially responsible manner and helping and encouraging their suppliers to do the same

Environment: Working to reduce our environmental impact, with a particular emphasis on reducing their greenhouse gas emissions and waste sent to landfill

Community: Being respectful and understanding about the way their operations affect the local community and making a positive and valuable contribution to society.

“We are extremely proud of the progress during 2007 and to be able to document this within the report is a significant achievement.” said Dylan Jones, Managing Director of Corporate Express UK. “Both the 2007 CSR Report and the Sustainability Day reinforces our dedication and commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility, and we will continue our efforts in the years to come.”

For more information about Corporate Express, to download the Corporate Social Responsibility Report or to access the Socially Responsible Purchasing Catalogue, go online to www.corporateexpress.co.uk.

About Corporate Express – A Staples Company

Since July 2008, Corporate Express is part of Staples – the world's largest supplier of office products. Our company dedicates itself to taking service in the office supplies market to the next level. From our 350 locations in 21 countries, we provide our customers with a single source for all their business supplies, making it possible for them to focus more time, energy and resources on their core business.

We are continuously adapting to meet the individual needs of our customers. In the 21st Century, this means offering one-stop shopping, 24/7, in a state-of-the-art online environment. Our accessibility and flexibility is enhanced by personnel with a strong service-oriented approach and a friendly personal touch. We listen to our customers, help them save time and maximise their productivity.

About Staples

Staples, the world's largest office products company, is committed to making it easy for customers to buy a wide range of office products, including supplies, technology, furniture, and business services. With \$27 billion in sales, Staples



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serves businesses of all sizes and consumers in 27 countries throughout North and South America, Europe, Asia and Australia. In July 2008, Staples acquired Corporate Express, one of the world's leading suppliers of office products to businesses and institutions. Staples invented the office superstore concept in 1986 and is headquartered outside Boston. More information about Staples (Nasdaq: SPLS) is available at www.staples.com.