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Attention: Assignment & Lifestyle Editors

STAPLES BUSINESS DEPOT/BUREAU EN GROS APPRECIATES CUSTOMERS WITH A \$10,000.00 OFFICE MAKEOVER CONTEST CANADA-WIDE

Staples Business Depot/Bureau en Gros Holds Fifth Annual Customer Appreciation Event, May 11th through 17th

TORONTO, ON – May 11, 2005 – Staples Business Depot/Bureau en Gros thanks its customers by hosting a Customer Appreciation Event in their honour. Today marks the first day of this national event, which runs from May 11 to May 17, 2005, held at all Staples Business Depot/Bureau en Gros locations across Canada, online and by catalogue.

The week-long event is jam packed with special offers and fantastic prizes for customers as a thank you for their patronage. Customers can enter the **Customer Appreciation Contest** on-line at www.staples.ca/contest or www.bureauengros.com/concours and in-store at any Staples Business Depot/Bureau en Gros store location across Canada. The Grand Prize is one of three \$10,000.00 Staples Business Depot/Bureau en Gros Gift Cards to be used towards an Office Makeover. The three grand prize winners can refresh and revive their office space by choosing from a wide selection of file folders, pens and paper to office electronics and furniture. Other prizes include one \$5,000.00 Via Rail Travel Voucher for the 2nd place winner and for 3rd place winners nation wide, one of ten \$1,000.00 Gift Cards from Staples Business Depot/Bureau en Gros.

“Without our valuable customers, Staples Business Depot would not be the business it is today,” says Steve Matyas, President, Staples Business Depot/Bureau en Gros. “Our customers have rewarded us with their loyalty and we want to show our appreciation. We look forward to our Customer Appreciation Event each year.”

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This year marks the Fifth Annual Customer Appreciation Event that Staples Business Depot/Bureau en Gros has held for its customers. Staples Business Depot/Bureau en Gros knows the importance of its customers and how much they enjoy this event. With three \$10,000.00 grand prize office makeovers, this year promises to be the biggest Customer Appreciation Event in history.

About Staples Business Depot

The Business Depot Ltd. was founded in Toronto in 1991. It is Canada's largest supplier of office supplies, business machines, office furniture and business services for the small business and home office customer. The company is an everyday low price retailer. The chain operates stores in all provinces across Canada under the banners STAPLES® Business Depot™ and BUREAU EN GROS™. The company has over 11,500 employees serving customers through more than 235 office superstores, catalogue, and e-commerce. STAPLES® Business Depot™/BUREAU EN GROS™ is committed to making shopping easy by offering customers three ways to shop - on-line, by catalogue and in-store. In addition to the Canadian operation, Staples Inc. has stores operating in the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands and Portugal.

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