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Innovative Back to School Products Blend the Hottest New Colours and Styles to Make Organizing Easy

STAPLES Business Depot has all you need for class. And more.

TORONTO, ON (August 1, 2006) – Parents, teachers, experts and teens overwhelmingly agree organization is key to a successful school year. This year, STAPLES Business Depot's back to school products infuse style and organization in products ranging from calculators to staplers to an assortment of multimedia must haves. Featuring the latest colours and styles and making organizing a snap, Staples brand products put the FUN in FUNCTIONAL this back to school season.

"During the product development phase of our back to school Staples brand products we identified the specific needs of teens and created products to meet those needs," said Steven Bollenbach, Brand Manager, STAPLES Business Depot. "Our latest selection of Staples brand products will help keep teens organized while still remaining stylish."

Organization and Style Made Easy

From innovative storage solutions to funky calculators and pens, STAPLES Business Depot's new selection of Staples brand product for back to school focuses on organization and features vibrant, 'student-approved' colours, such as fuchsia, coral and teal. Some of the hottest items for 2006 include:

- **Staples Bubble Calculator:** Students will enjoy these soft-to-the touch calculators, which are fun, practical, lightweight and in demand. Bubble Calculators are available in teal, fuchsia, white, black, and green; while supplies last. (Suggested retail price \$3.64)
- **Staples One-Touch Compact Stapler:** The Staples One-Touch Compact Stapler makes it easy to staple without putting a lot of muscle into it. Staple gun power right at your fingertips. Designed to staple up to 15 sheets of paper at one time. Now available in teal, tangerine, fuchsia and lime green. (Suggested retail price \$9.98)
- **Staples Gel Stick Minis:** The must-have pens for the 2006 school year. Staples Gel Stick Minis are miniaturized gel pens that are compact, comfortable and perfect for taking notes in class or writing messages to friends. They are available in black, blue, red, green, purple, forest green, navy, orange, pink, sky blue, lilac and lime green. (\$3.99 for a pack of 12)

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- **Staples Unitz:** These miniature crates are ideal for stackable storage of CDs and DVDs within the locker or at home. They come in a wide range of colours and retail for \$4.76 for the CD size and \$5.76 for the DVD size.
- **Staples Bike WordLock:** Keep your bike safe with the Staples Bike WordLock, the latest addition to the WordLock family. Never forget your bike combination with a lock that uses letters - rather than numbers. Memorize and load in any four letter word, choose from over 750 word combinations, for your personal easy combination. The Staples Bike WordLock, with vinyl coated steel cable, includes mounting bracket for easy attachment to your bike. (Suggested retail price \$9.96)
- **Staples Relay USB Flash Drives:** Store all your important files including projects, presentations, MP3 files, photos and more on a Staples Relay USB Flash Drive. The convenient plug and play capabilities of a USB Flash Drive makes it easy for transporting files between home and school. The Staples Relay USB Flash Drive comes with a keychain loop and lanyard for convenient portability. Available in three sizes: 256MB, 512MB and 1.0GB. (Pricing ranges from \$27.96 to \$69.95)

This is just a small selection of Staples brand products available for back to school. STAPLES Business Depot has all you need for class. And more.

STAPLES Business Depot

STAPLES Business Depot 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 13,000 employees serving customers through more than 265 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 - online, by catalogue and in-store. More information is available at www.staples.ca.

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About Staples

Staples, Inc. invented the office superstore concept in 1986 and today is the world's largest office products company. With 69,000 talented associates, the company is committed to making it easy to buy a wide range of office products, including supplies, technology, furniture, and business services. With 2005 sales of \$16.1 billion, Staples serves consumers and businesses ranging from home-based businesses to Fortune 500 companies in 21 countries throughout North and South America, Europe and Asia. Headquartered outside of Boston, Staples operates approximately 1,780 office superstores and also serves its customers through mail order catalog, e-commerce and contract businesses. More information is available at www.staples.com.

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