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Media Release

**Attention: Assignment and Photo Editors
For Immediate Release**

Easy Recycling Program raises \$270,000 for Education STAPLES Business Depot donates funds to over 600 elementary and high schools across Canada

Toronto, ON - October 3, 2006 - STAPLES Business Depot today, announced that it will be donating \$270,000 to elementary and high schools that participated in their 'Recycling for Education' Program over the last 12 months.

"Staples Business Depot collected 270,000 eligible toner cartridges and is pleased to donate \$1.00 for each one to elementary and high schools in communities across Canada" says Steve Matyas, President of STAPLES Business Depot in Canada. "The STAPLES Recycle for Education" program is an easy way for educators, parents, students and our customers to help schools and the environment. This program has been so successful that we are proud to repeat it for the 2006/07 school year."

According to recent statistics one school can use 300 inkjet cartridges a year and each student uses a minimum of 6 to 10 cartridges a year.

"Inkjet printers can be found in nearly every home in Canada," states Mr. Matyas. "Most cartridges – an estimated 375,000,000 - are thrown in the garbage and then dumped in landfill sites where it can take centuries before the plastic containers decompose, so recycling will make a huge impact on the environment."

The program is easy; cartridges can be dropped into the specially marked recycling bins in any of the 270 STAPLES Business Depot stores across the country.

The money raised will once again be channeled to the elementary and high schools that register online for the program. To be eligible schools are asked to register with the program at www.RecycleForEd.ca before December 31, 2006. The funds raised will be distributed to participating schools on Earth Day, April 2008. STAPLES Business Depot expects to raise over \$400,000 for participating schools this year.

All elementary and secondary schools in Canada are eligible whether or not there is a STAPLES Business Depot in their community.

STAPLES Business Depot is a large supporter of public education and the environment.

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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 13,000 employees serving customers through more than 260 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. More information is available at www.staples.ca.

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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