



that was easy.™



rien de plus simple.™

Over 350,000 school supplies delivered to children in need across Canada

STAPLES Business Depot's annual program collects \$400,000 in supplies

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TORONTO, ON – October 20, 2006 – STAPLES Business Depot/Bureau en Gros, Canada's leader in office supplies, recently collected 350 thousand school supplies valued at over \$400,000 to help make the back to school season easier for children in need to start their school year off right.

STAPLES Business Depot/Bureau en Gros locations across Canada selected a local charity, organization, school or school board to be the recipient of the collected school supplies. Some of the organizations the company partnered with include Kiwanis International and Club des petit déjeuners du Québec. Supplies will be distributed to children in need this month.

"Our store associates created a very successful campaign this year and our customers were extremely generous. Their combined contributions to the STAPLES Business Depot School Supply Drive will support so many children across the country," says Steve Matyas, President, STAPLES Business Depot.

Our partnership with STAPLES Business Depot has benefited school children in need across Canada and truly embodied the Kiwanis mission of changing the world one child and one community at a time," said Bill Cowperthwaite, President of the Kiwanis Club of Orleans. "We would like to thank all of the communities involved for their support and donations which have made a difference in so many young lives."

"Bureau en Gros' expertise, generosity and chain of stores play a key role in the healthy growth of the *Club des petits déjeuners du Québec*. Bureau en Gros allows us to increase awareness of our cause and to reach out to thousands of individuals. Together, 14,250 children have been able to depend on the Club with confidence, and thanks to this new fundraiser, even more children will be able to benefit from our help", highlighted Francyne Charrette, Vice President of *Club des petits déjeuners du Québec*.

STAPLES Business Depot and its partners are very pleased to be able to provide thousands of school supplies to thousands of children across Canada.

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.

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 more than 1,800 office superstores and also serves its customers through mail order catalog, e-commerce and contract businesses. More information is available at www.staples.com.

-30-

For further information, please contact:

Alessandra Saccal
Public Relations Manager
STAPLES Business Depot
(905) 737-1147 ext. 2424
alessandra.saccal@staples.ca

Ann Dennis
Public Relations
STAPLES Business Depot
(905) 737-1147 ext. 2424
ann.dennis@staples.ca