



## The Cooper Companies Announces \$150 Million Share Repurchase Program

PLEASANTON, Calif., Dec. 15, 2011 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The Cooper Companies, Inc. (NYSE:COO) today announced that its Board of Directors has approved a share repurchase program, authorizing the Company to purchase up to \$150 million of the corporation's shares of common stock.

The program is effective immediately and runs through December 31, 2012. Purchases may be made on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time to time, as determined by Cooper's management, and in accordance with the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### About The Cooper Companies

The Cooper Companies, Inc. ("Cooper") is a global medical device company publicly traded on the NYSE Euronext (NYSE:COO). Cooper is dedicated to serving the needs of the healthcare professional, improving the quality of life for its employees and customers and providing market leading products. Cooper's commitment to health and wellness is reflected through its corporate culture and global initiatives to promote healthy life choices for its employees. Cooper operates through two business units, CooperVision and CooperSurgical. CooperVision brings a refreshing perspective on vision care with a commitment to crafting quality lenses for contact lens wearers and providing focused practitioner support. CooperSurgical focuses on supplying women's health clinicians with market leading products and treatment options to improve the delivery of healthcare to women. Both companies provide superior product range and quality, along with friendly customer service and a drive to continually innovate. Cooper and CooperVision are headquartered in Pleasanton, CA, and CooperSurgical is headquartered in Trumbull, CT.

The Cooper Companies, Inc. logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=10403>

### Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains "forward-looking statements" as defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Statements relating to guidance, plans, prospects, goals, strategies, future actions, events or performance and other statements which are other than statements of historical fact, including our 2012 Guidance and all statements regarding anticipated growth in our revenue, expected results of operations and integration of any acquisition are forward-looking. To identify these statements look for words like "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," "could," "seeks," "intends," "plans," "estimates" or "anticipates" and similar words or phrases. Forward-looking statements necessarily depend on assumptions, data or methods that may be incorrect or imprecise and are subject to risks and uncertainties.

Among the factors that could cause our actual results and future actions to differ materially from those described in forward-looking statements are: adverse changes in the global or regional general business, political and economic conditions due to the current global economic downturn, including the impact of continuing uncertainty and instability of United States and international credit markets that may adversely affect the Company's or its customers' ability to meet future liquidity needs; reduced sales, loss of customers, and costs and expenses related to the recall of certain lots of Avaira Toric and Avaira Sphere contact lenses and any additional adverse impact if this recall is expanded in the future; a major disruption in the operations of our manufacturing, research and development or distribution facilities due to technological problems, natural disasters or other causes; disruptions in supplies of raw materials, particularly components used to manufacture our silicone hydrogel lenses; legal costs, insurance expenses, settlement costs and the risk of an adverse decision or settlement related to product liability, patent or other litigation protection; limitations on sales following new product introductions due to poor market acceptance; new competitors, product innovations or technologies; the impact of acquisitions or divestitures on revenues, earnings or margins; interest rate and foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations; the requirement to provide for a significant liability or to write off, or accelerate depreciation on, a significant asset, including goodwill; changes in United States and foreign government regulations of the retail optical industry and of the healthcare industry generally; changes in tax laws or their interpretation and changes in effective tax rates; dilution to earnings per share from acquisitions or issuing stock and other events described in our Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including the "Business" and "Risk Factors" sections in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2010 as well as in our forthcoming Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2011, as such Risk Factors may be updated in quarterly filings.

We caution investors that forward-looking statements reflect our analysis only on their stated date. We disclaim any intent to update them except as required by law.

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