



The Cooper Companies Holds Annual Meeting of Stockholders

LAKE FOREST, Calif., March 22, 2005 (PRIMEZONE) -- At its annual meeting held today in New York City, stockholders of The Cooper Companies, Inc. (NYSE:COO) elected ten directors, ratified the appointment of KPMG LLP as the Company's auditors for fiscal 2005, and approved an increase in the number of authorized shares from 70 million to 120 million shares.

Board of Directors and Officers

Cooper's stockholders elected the following as members of the board of directors: A. Thomas Bender, president and chief executive officer of the Company; Edgar Cummins; John Fruth; Michael H. Kalkstein, partner of Dechert, LLP; Moses Marx, general partner of United Equities; Donald Press, executive vice president of Broadway Management Company, Inc., and principal in the firm of Donald Press, P.C.; Steven Rosenberg, president, chief executive officer and chief financial officer of Berkshire Bancorp Inc.; Allan E. Rubenstein, M.D., chief executive officer of NexGenix Pharmaceuticals, LLC and a member of the faculty of the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine and the Mt. Sinai Neurofibromatosis Research and Treatment Center; Robert S. Weiss, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the Company; and Stanley Zinberg, M.D., executive vice president and vice president for practice activities for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Following the stockholders' meeting, the board elected A. Thomas Bender, chairman of the board and chief executive officer and Allan E. Rubenstein, M.D., vice-chairman of the board and lead director. The board also elected as officers of the Company: Robert S. Weiss, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Carol R. Kaufman, senior vice president of legal affairs, secretary and chief administrative officer, David Acosta, treasurer, B. Norris Battin, vice president investor relations and communications, Rodney E. Folden, corporate controller, Eugene J. Midlock, vice president taxes and Steven M. Neil, vice president and chief financial officer.

Corporate Information

The Cooper Companies, Inc. manufactures and markets specialty healthcare products through its CooperVision and CooperSurgical units. Corporate offices are in Lake Forest and Pleasanton, Calif. The World Wide Web address is www.cooperco.com. A toll free interactive telephone system at 1-800-334-1986 provides stock quotes, recent press releases and financial data.

CooperVision manufactures and markets contact lenses and ophthalmic surgery products. Headquartered in Lake Forest, Calif., it manufactures in Albuquerque, N.M., Huntington Beach, Calif., Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico, Norfolk, Va., Rochester, N.Y., Adelaide, Australia, Hamble and Hampshire England, Ligny-en-Barrios, France, Madrid, Spain and Toronto. Its Web address is www.coopervision.com.

CooperSurgical manufactures and markets diagnostic products, surgical instruments and accessories to the women's healthcare market. With headquarters and manufacturing facilities in Trumbull, Conn., it also manufactures in Pasadena, Calif., Fort Atkinson, Wis., Malmö, Sweden, Montreal and Berlin. Its Web address is www.coopersurgical.com.

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