



Fastenal Company Announces Cash Dividend

WINONA, Minn., Jan 18, 2010 (GlobeNewswire via COMTEX News Network) -- The Fastenal Company of Winona, MN (Nasdaq:FAST) reported its Board of Directors declared a dividend of \$.40 per share be paid in cash on February 26, 2010 to shareholders of record at the close of business on February 15, 2010. The Company expects that it will continue to pay a comparable semi-annual cash dividend in the foreseeable future, provided that any future determination as to payment of dividends will depend upon the financial condition and results of operations of the Company and such other factors as are deemed relevant by the Board of Directors.

Dividend and stock repurchase activity in the last ten years are as follows:

Year	Dividends paid	Total dividend paid (000's)	Total dividend paid per share	Total value of repurchased shares (000's)	Per share price of repurchased shares
2009	Two	\$ 106,943	\$0.72	\$41,105	\$37.37
2008	Three (1)	\$ 117,474	\$0.79	\$25,955	\$44.72
2007	Two	\$66,216	\$0.44	\$87,312	\$41.86
2006	Two	\$60,548	\$0.40	\$17,294	\$36.49
2005	Two	\$46,935	\$0.31	\$18,739	\$26.75
2004	Two	\$30,350	\$0.20	\$--	\$--
2003	Two	\$15,935	\$0.105	\$--	\$--
2002	One	\$3,794	\$0.025	\$--	\$--
2001	One	\$3,415	\$0.0225	\$--	\$--
2000	One	\$3,035	\$0.02	\$--	\$--

(1) 2008 Dividend includes two regular payments totaling \$0.52 per share and a supplemental dividend paid in December of \$0.27 per share.

All information reflects the 2-for-1 stock splits effected in the form of a stock dividend in each of 2002 and 2005.

Fastenal sells different types of industrial and construction supplies in the following product categories: threaded fasteners and miscellaneous supplies; tools; metal cutting tool blades and abrasives; fluid transfer components and accessories for hydraulic and pneumatic power; material handling; storage and packaging products; janitorial, chemical and paint products; electrical supplies; welding supplies; safety supplies; and metals, alloys and materials.

As of December 31, 2009, Fastenal operated 2,369 stores in the United States (all 50 states), Canada (all provinces), Puerto Rico (multiple), Mexico (14 states), Singapore (one location), Netherlands (one location), Hungary (one location), Malaysia (one location), and China (two locations) selling to the general public. The Company operates 14 distribution centers located in Minnesota, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Georgia, Washington, California, Utah, North Carolina, Kansas, Ontario, Canada; Alberta, Canada; and Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

Additional information regarding Fastenal Company is available on the Fastenal Company World Wide Web site at www.fastenal.com.

The Fastenal Company logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=6432>

This press release contains statements that are not historical in nature and that are intended to be, and are hereby identified as, "forward looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including a statement regarding expectations as to payment of a comparable semi-annual cash dividend in the foreseeable future. Any future determination as to payment of dividends will depend upon the financial condition and results of operations of the Company and such other factors as are deemed relevant by the Board of Directors. For example, a change in business needs including

working capital and funding for acquisitions, or a change in tax law relating to dividends, could cause the Company to decide not to pay a dividend in the future. A discussion of other risks and uncertainties is included in the Company's 2008 annual report on Form 10-K under the section captioned "Risk Factors" and the Company's 2008 annual and 2009 quarterly reports under the section captioned "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations". FAST-D

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