

# **Building "North America's Best Food & Beverage Company"**

## **Kraft Foods Outlines Growth Plans for North American Grocery Business**

- Plans to Deliver Profitable Top-Line Growth, Consistent Bottom-Line Growth and Superior Dividend Payout
- Issues 2013 GAAP EPS Guidance of Approximately \$2.60

BOSTON, Sept. 7, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- The future leadership team of Kraft Foods Inc.'s North American grocery business presented its growth plans and financial outlook at a meeting of analysts and investors today in Boston. The business, which will become an independent public company in October, expects to deliver steady and profitable top-line growth, consistent bottom-line growth and a superior dividend payout.

As previously announced, Kraft Foods Inc. plans to spin-off Kraft Foods Group, Inc., which will hold Kraft Foods' North American grocery business, at 5 p.m. EDT on Oct. 1, 2012. Kraft Foods Group will trade on the NASDAQ stock exchange under the ticker symbol "KRFT." Following the spin-off, Kraft Foods Inc. will be renamed Mondelēz International, Inc. Mondelēz International will trade on the NASDAQ stock exchange under the ticker symbol "MDLZ."

"Today, I have the honor to introduce a new Kraft, one with the spirit of a startup and the soul of a powerhouse," said Tony Vernon, President of Kraft Foods North America and future Chief Executive Officer of Kraft Foods Group. "Our aim is to be North America's best food and beverage company, and we'll get there by continuing to offer products consumers love, creating a performance-based culture that motivates and excites employees and becoming the best investment in the industry."

"Tony and his team have a clear mission and are ready to deliver," said John Cahill, future Executive Chairman of Kraft Foods Group. "I'm confident we have the right plans and people in place to unlock the value of the North American grocery business after its spin-off."

## Unleashing the Power of an Unparalleled Portfolio

Kraft Foods Group offers a diverse, unrivaled portfolio of admired brands with products in the beverages, cheese, convenient meals and grocery categories. Led by iconic brands like *Kraft*, *Oscar Mayer* and *Maxwell House*, Kraft Foods Group will be North America's fourth largest consumer packaged food and beverage company out of the gate, with revenues of approximately \$19 billion in 2011. Ten of the company's brands achieved sales of \$500 million or more in 2011, while an additional 17 brands posted sales of \$100 million or more in 2011. Approximately 80 percent of Kraft Foods Group's revenue comes from categories in which the company holds the No. 1 or No. 2 market position.

### **Growth Plans**

Kraft Foods Group's future growth will be driven by a four-part strategic plan: making its people its competitive edge, executing with excellence, "turbocharging" its iconic brands and redefining efficiency.

To make its people its competitive edge, Kraft Foods Group plans to create a more nimble, less-layered organization and unleash the skills and creativity of its people by breaking down walls -- literally and figuratively -- at the company. Incentive plans will be redesigned to incorporate stock ownership more broadly to reinforce the alignment between employee and shareholder interests. Stepped-up investment in talent acquisition and a newly created "Kraft University" will help create the next generation of Kraft leaders.

Second, Kraft Foods Group will *execute with excellence* by strategically allocating resources to best leverage the breadth of the company's portfolio, sales and warehouse distribution system. In April 2012, Kraft Foods Group's highly regarded sales organization teamed up with Acosta, a leading sales agency, which has helped expand in-store merchandising coverage by 30 percent and grow the company's presence on store shelves with a 5 percent increase in total distribution points. The sales organization has also realigned its incentives to focus on net revenue growth and profit dollars.

The third step in the company's plan is to "turbocharge" its iconic brands so they can grow faster than the market and key competitors. This means delivering the right products at the right price points, introducing "big bet" innovations like MiO, which created an entirely new product category of liquid beverage enhancers, addressing health & wellness needs through the reformulation of existing products and introduction of new products, and investing in world-class marketing. Increased advertising in brands like Velveeta, Philadelphia, Kraft Mayo and Capri Sun has already resulted in significant sales increases.

Lastly, Kraft Foods Group will *redefine efficiency* to free up cash, in order to make these important investments in people, innovation and marketing. The company will employ several tools such as Lean Six Sigma, supply chain simplification and strategic sourcing, with the goal of becoming the lowest cost producer in its categories. Success will be measured through external benchmarking to reinforce a results-driven culture.

## **Long-term Outlook**

Kraft Foods Group expects to be well-positioned over the long term to deliver steady, reliable growth with a strong focus on cash flow to fund a highly competitive dividend and reinvestment in people, innovation and brand-building. The company will consistently aim to accomplish:

- Organic revenue growth<sup>1</sup> at or above the North American food and beverage market rate of growth;
- Mid-single digit Operating Income growth;
- Mid-to-high single digit EPS growth;
- Mid-single digit dividend growth; and
- Free Cash Flow<sup>1</sup> of at least 85% of Net Income.

"Cash will be king at Kraft," said Tim McLevish, Chief Financial Officer of Kraft Foods Group. "What matters to shareholders is total return and dollars in their pockets. And cash will be the fuel to grow our business."

#### 2013 Outlook

Kraft Foods Group will launch from a position of strength, having delivered four consecutive quarters of top- and bottom-line growth. In 2013, the company expects to continue that momentum with organic revenue growth in line with market growth, despite a negative impact of 1 point due to product pruning.

Productivity improvements and overhead savings are expected to drive 2013 EPS of approximately \$2.60 on a GAAP basis. This outlook assumes interest expense of approximately \$520 million and an effective tax rate of 35 percent. The results for the year also include restructuring costs of about \$240 million (or 26 cents per share), compared to expected ongoing costs of about \$125 million (or 14 cents per share) in a typical year. Free cash flow is expected to be about 70 percent of GAAP net income – below the long-term target of at least 85 percent due to an extra tax payment in 2013 of approximately \$200 million.

The management team expects to recommend to the Board an annual dividend of \$2.00 per share.

A live audio webcast of today's presentations, including slides, is available at <a href="http://www.kraftfoodsgroup.com/">http://www.kraftfoodsgroup.com/</a>.

## **ABOUT KRAFT FOODS GROUP**

On Oct. 1, 2012, Kraft Foods Group, Inc. will spin-off from its parent, Kraft Foods Inc. (NASDAQ: KFT). A major player in grocery, cheese, convenient meals, beverages and foodservice, Kraft Foods Group will be one of the largest consumer packaged food and beverage companies in North America. With a broad portfolio of iconic brands including *Kraft, Maxwell House, Oscar Mayer, Planters* and *JELL-O*, Kraft Foods Group had 2011 revenue of \$18.7 billion. Kraft Foods Group will trade on the NASDAQ stock exchange under the ticker symbol "KRFT."

Also on Oct. 1, Kraft Foods Inc. will change its name to Mondelēz International, Inc., which will be a high-growth global snacks company with annual revenue of approximately \$36 billion and leading brands including *Cadbury*, *Jacobs*, *LU*, *Milka*, *Nabisco*, *Oreo*, *Tang* and *Trident*. Mondelēz International will trade on the NASDAQ stock exchange under the ticker symbol "MDLZ." Visit <a href="http://www.kraftfoodscompany.com/">http://www.kraftfoodscompany.com/</a> and <a href="https://www.kraftfoodscompany.com/">www.facebook.com/kraftfoodscorporate</a>.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release contains a number of forward-looking statements. The words "plan," "drive," "build," "can," "will," "expect," "aim" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Examples of forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding Kraft Foods Group's strategic plans, financial targets and long-term guidance, including revenue and operating income growth, EPS and margins; Kraft Foods Group's future dividends; Kraft Foods Group's opportunities to improve profitability and generate cash; Kraft Foods Group's restructuring costs; the timing and completion of the spin-off of Kraft Foods Group; and Kraft Foods Group's expectations and goals for efficiency and productivity, resource allocation, reinvestment in our business, sales execution, cash management, free cash flow, innovation and employee recruitment, compensation and investment. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond Kraft Foods Group's control, which could cause Kraft Foods Group's actual results to differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements. Please see Kraft Foods Group's risk factors, as they may be amended from time to time, set forth in its filings with the SEC, including Kraft Foods Group's Registration Statement on Form 10 filed with the SEC and subsequent reports on Form 8-K. Kraft Foods Inc. and Kraft Foods Group each disclaims and does

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please see discussion of Non-GAAP financial measures at the end of this press release.

not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement in this press release, except as required by applicable law or regulation.

#### **NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES**

Kraft Foods Group reports its financial results in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("GAAP").

Kraft Foods Group's top-line measure is organic revenue, which excludes the impacts of related party transactions, divestitures, currency and accounting calendar changes. The company uses organic revenue and corresponding metrics as non-GAAP financial measures. Management believes organic revenue better reflects the underlying growth from the ongoing activities of Kraft Foods Group's business and provides improved comparability of results.

The company also uses free cash flow as a non-GAAP financial measure. Free cash flow is defined as net cash provided by operating activities less capital expenditures. Management believes free cash flow shows the financial health of, and how efficiently we are running, the company.

Non-GAAP financial measures should be viewed in addition to, and not as an alternative for, the company's results prepared in accordance with GAAP. In addition, the non-GAAP measures the company is using may differ from the non-GAAP measures used by other companies.

#### **SOURCE Kraft Foods**

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