



May 31, 2012

The Wet Seal, Inc. Announces May Comparable Store Sales Declined 8.8%

FOOTHILL RANCH, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- The Wet Seal, Inc. (Nasdaq: WTSLA), a leading specialty retailer to young women, reported net sales and comparable store sales for the four-week period ended May 26, 2012, or fiscal May, as follows:

Fiscal May

	Net Sales		Comparable Store Sales % Change	
	\$ in Millions	% Change From Last Year	This Year	Last Year
Wet Seal	\$ 33.8	-7.0%	-8.7%	2.8%
Arden B	7.5	-6.9%	-9.3%	3.2%
Total	\$ 41.3	-7.0%	-8.8%	2.9%

Susan McGalla, chief executive officer of The Wet Seal, Inc., commented: "May sales were in line with our expectations.

"At Wet Seal, down-trending fashion knit tops and screen tee businesses overshadowed growth in several other categories. Through the remainder of the quarter, we will continue to shift our assortment toward strong performing categories, including woven tops, jeans, dresses and shoes, to better position Wet Seal for the back-to-school season.

"At Arden B, the bottoms category performed well, while other categories declined. We remain focused on building our bottoms business and improving our tops assortment to provide more compelling outfitting solutions for our customer, as well as maintaining our strength as a dress destination.

"E-commerce sales declined 5% in May compared to a 6% decrease for the prior year month. The level of May sales decline reflects improvement from our recent trend. In June, we expect continued improvement as we anniversary the beginning of strategic efforts to transition to a higher penetration of full-price selling online and better align merchandising in the e-commerce channel with our stores."

About The Wet Seal, Inc.

Headquartered in Foothill Ranch, California, The Wet Seal, Inc. is a leading specialty retailer of fashionable and contemporary apparel and accessory items. As of May 26, 2012, the Company operated a total of 554 stores in 47 states and Puerto Rico, including 470 Wet Seal stores and 84 Arden B stores. The Company's products can also be purchased online at www.wetseal.com or www.ardenb.com. For more Company information, visit www.wetsealinc.com.

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Source: The Wet Seal, Inc.

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