



The Wet Seal, Inc. Announces April Comparable Store Sales Up 35.7%

FOOTHILL RANCH, Calif., May 05, 2005 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Specialty retailer The Wet Seal, Inc. (Nasdaq:WTSLA) today reported net sales for the four-week period ended April 30, 2005 of \$33.6 million, compared with net sales of \$32.0 million for the same period last year, an increase of 5.1 percent. Comparable store sales from continuing operations increased 35.7 percent for the four-week period ended April 30, 2005, compared with a decline of 16.8 percent for the same period a year ago.

Net sales for the thirteen-weeks ended April 30, 2005 were \$104.4 million, compared with net sales of \$99.9 million for the same period last year, a 4.5 percent increase. Comparable store sales from continuing operations increased 29.8 percent for the thirteen-week period ended April 30, 2005, compared with a decline of 17.2 percent for the same period a year ago.

Mr. Joel Waller, chief executive officer of The Wet Seal, Inc. commented: "Our April comparable store sales result continues to validate our merchandise strategy for our Wet Seal division."

Headquartered in Foothill Ranch, California, The Wet Seal, Inc. is a leading specialty retailer of fashionable and contemporary apparel and accessory items. The company currently operates a total of 398 stores in 46 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, including 307 Wet Seal stores and 91 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.

The Wet Seal, Inc., Foothill Ranch
Investor Relations, 949-699-4804