



The Wet Seal, Inc. Announces August Comparable Store Sales Declined 11.2%

FOOTHILL RANCH, Calif., Sep 03, 2009 (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 August 29, 2009, or fiscal August, as follows:

	Net Sales		Comparable Store Sales % Change	
	\$ in Millions	% Change From Last Year	This Year	Last Year
Wet Seal	\$ 43.6	-8.6%	-12.6%	-5.4%
Arden B	6.9	-10.1%	-1.8%	-24.7%
Total	\$ 50.5	-8.9%	-11.2%	-8.7%

Ed Thomas, president and chief executive officer of The Wet Seal, Inc., commented: "At Wet Seal, back-to-school results so far have been in line with our expectations. Given that Labor Day falls one week later this year than last, we expect a similar one-week shift in back-to-school shopping. Therefore, we believe that the combined results for August and September will present a more accurate picture of the back-to-school season than does August alone."

Mr. Thomas continued, "We were pleased to narrow the comparable store sales decline significantly at Arden B. We began to see improving trends as the month progressed, suggesting our planned inventory build in this division has helped drive sales. We plan to have the full extent of inventory build at Arden B, which will still result in lower inventory dollar levels than last year, completed by mid-September."

About Wet Seal

Headquartered in Foothill Ranch, California, The Wet Seal, Inc. is a leading specialty retailer of fashionable and contemporary apparel and accessory items. As of August 29, 2009, the Company operated a total of 501 stores in 47 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, including 420 Wet Seal stores and 81 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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