

## **Patterson Companies Announces Acquisitions Of Dental and Veterinary Distributors**

**St. Paul, MN--April 1, 2008**—Patterson Companies, Inc. (Nasdaq: PDCO) today announced the acquisition of a regional dental distributor, in addition to the purchase of a veterinary supply distributor. Terms of the acquisitions were not disclosed.

Leventhal & Sons, Inc., the acquired dental distributor, has annual sales of approximately \$18 million. Headquartered in Scranton, Pennsylvania, the company serves customers in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Delaware, and Maryland.

Scott P. Anderson, president of Patterson Dental Supply, commented: "In addition to strengthening Patterson's current position in the northeastern U.S., this acquisition expands the range of products and services available to Leventhal's customers, while creating additional opportunities for the employees of this third-generation distributor. Leventhal also represents an excellent strategic fit with Patterson, since both companies share a strong commitment to a value-added, full-service approach to the dental marketplace."

Associated Medical Supply, Inc. is a veterinary distributor located in Scottsdale, Arizona. With annual sales of approximately \$5 million, Associated serves companion-pet veterinarians in Arizona and Utah. The Webster Veterinary unit of Patterson will combine its companion-pet operations with those of Associated to establish a branch office in the Arizona market.

George Henriques, president of Webster Veterinary Supply, stated: "The Associated transaction is of strategic importance, since it strengthens our presence in the growing southwestern U.S. By combining Webster's investments in software and technology with the strong customer relationships that Associated has established, we believe veterinarians will benefit from a significantly expanded level of product and service offerings."

### **About Patterson Companies, Inc.**

Patterson Companies, Inc. is a value-added distributor serving the dental, companion-pet veterinarian and rehabilitation supply markets.

#### Dental Market

As Patterson's largest business, Patterson Dental provides a virtually complete range of consumable dental products, equipment and software, turnkey digital solutions and value-added services to dentists and dental laboratories throughout North America.

#### Veterinary Market

Webster Veterinary is the nation's second largest distributor of consumable veterinary supplies, equipment and software, diagnostic products, vaccines and pharmaceuticals to companion-pet veterinary clinics.

#### Rehabilitation Market

Patterson Medical is the world's leading distributor of rehabilitation supplies and non-wheelchair assistive patient products to the physical and occupational therapy markets. The unit's global customer base includes hospitals, long-term care facilities, clinics and dealers.

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This release contains forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are information of a non-historical nature and are subject to risks and uncertainties that are beyond the Company's ability to control. The Company cautions shareholders and prospective investors that the following factors, among others, may cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated by the forward-looking statements: competition within the dental, veterinary, and rehabilitative and assistive living supply industries; changes in the economics of dentistry, including reduced growth in expenditures by private dental insurance plans, the effects of economic conditions and the effects of healthcare

reform, which may affect future per capita expenditures for dental services and the ability and willingness of dentists to invest in high-technology products; the effects of healthcare related legislation and regulation which may affect expenditures or reimbursements for rehabilitative and assistive products; changes in the economics of the veterinary supply market, including reduced growth in per capita expenditures for veterinary services and reduced growth in the number of households owning pets; the ability of the Company to maintain satisfactory relationships with its sales force; unforeseen operating risks; risks associated with the dependence on manufacturers of the Company's products; and the ability of the Company to successfully integrate the recent acquisitions into its existing business. Forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by the cautionary language set forth in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its Form 10-K for fiscal year 2007.

For additional information contact:

R. Stephen Armstrong  
Executive Vice President & CFO  
651/686-1600

Richard G. Cinquina  
Equity Market Partners  
904/415-1415