



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PATTERSON CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF ITS NORTHERN
DISTRIBUTION CENTER IN SOUTH BEND**

Patterson Logistics Services, Inc. (PLSI) recently held an open house celebrating the grand opening of its 208,000-square-foot Northern Distribution Center in South Bend, Ind. The event included a ribbon cutting on May 7, with Patterson officers, area branch managers and local dignitaries attending. On May 8, employees and their families and friends toured the facility and learned more about its operations.

“Our goal is to provide the best service possible to our customers, and this new facility helps us do that,” said Mark Aldridge, PLSI Vice President, Supply Chain. The Northern DC currently supports the dental and veterinary businesses of Patterson Companies, Inc. and has the capacity to house inventory for Patterson’s medical business in the future. Five dedicated UPS trucks provide next-day delivery to dental and veterinary professionals in major cities that include Chicago, Indianapolis, Columbus and Detroit.

The multi-phase move from Patterson’s facility less than a mile away began in early 2011. All operations were up and running by November in the newly expanded space. “With four times more space than we had before, we could add our veterinary distribution operations to our already established dental operations to more efficiently serve our customers with the highest level of accuracy,” Aldridge noted.

“We are thrilled to expand our distribution operations in South Bend and are excited for our employees and our organization,” said Northern DC Manager Jeff Lea. The 90 employees, which includes the entire workforce from the former site, run three overlapping shifts from 3:45 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., five days a week.

The dental and veterinary business units share the same distribution infrastructure to maximize efficiencies, although operations and requirements are specific to each industry. Features include proprietary warehouse management software and new racking and conveyor systems that allow orders to be picked, boxed, checked, labeled and dropped to outgoing trucks for delivery to the customer without leaving the conveyor. Patterson is seeking (LEED) certification, an international designation that promotes green design and construction and energy-efficient building systems, for the DC.

The DC stocks more than 43,000 items and processes more than 2,500 invoices daily – the highest volume of dental invoices in the PLSI network. PLSI’s 8 strategically located primary distribution centers across the U.S. deliver up to 92% of orders within 24 hours.

Patterson began distributing dental products in South Bend in 1993, leveraging the city’s strategically attractive location in the heart of the Midwest, as well as the Company’s partnership with UPS. “From the beginning, we identified South Bend as an optimal location that would help us take care of our customers,” Aldridge said. “This geographic reach, along with our newly expanded service platform and capabilities, ensures that our customers receive fast, seamless order processing and delivery that meets the needs of their business.”

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About Patterson Companies, Inc.

Patterson Companies is a global provider of complete, progressive solutions to the dental, companion-pet veterinary and rehabilitation supply markets (Patterson Dental, Webster Veterinary and Patterson Medical). Patterson's state-of-the art specialty distribution platform is capable of shipping products for all three businesses through strategically located regional facilities within the Patterson Logistics Services, Inc. distribution network. Visit www.pattersoncompanies.com for more information.

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