



Hat World and Genesco Donate New Shoes and Hats to Local School Children

November 28, 2006

--Indianapolis Colts Team with Specialty Retailer in Community Event--

--Company Holds Second Annual Cold Feet, Warm Shoes Fitting in Indianapolis--

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 28 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Volunteers from Indianapolis-based Hat World and Nashville, Tenn.-based Genesco Inc. (NYSE: GCO) fit 300 Indianapolis school-aged children with new shoes and warm hats for the holidays today. In addition, volunteers were joined by Indianapolis Colts players, led by Gary Brackett and Cato June, who visited with the children and spread holiday cheer.

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20061128/CLW094>)

The event, Cold Feet, Warm Shoes is Genesco's annual community outreach program, was held at Indianapolis' Francis Scott Key Elementary School. It is the second year in a row that the national event has been held in Indianapolis.

Genesco Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Hal N. Pennington, Genesco President Bob Dennis, Hat World President Ken Kocher and Hat World Co Founder and Chief Operating Officer Glenn Campbell, along with more than 70 company volunteers, set up and staffed a mock shoe and hat store created in the elementary school's gymnasium.

Company volunteers individually measured and fit each child at the school, offering them their choice of new shoes and the same individual service provided at any of Genesco's 1,900 stores across the U.S. In addition, the Company gave warm knit hats donated by Hat World to each child at the fitting.

Cold Feet, Warm Shoes was started by Genesco in Nashville 17 years ago to provide needy individuals with a new pair of shoes for the winter, to empower them with a choice of shoe style and to ensure a proper fit while giving them the same service a paying customer would receive at any of Genesco's 1,900 retail stores. Following Genesco's 2004 acquisition of Indianapolis-based Hat World, Genesco expanded the program into the Indianapolis market last year. Since the program's inception, more than 35,000 pairs of shoes have been donated to the needy across the U.S.

"It is important to us that we give back to the community and those less fortunate," Pennington said. "As a leading footwear and headwear company, we are giving back in a way that makes not only good sense but also a tremendous impact in the Indianapolis community."

Five Indianapolis Colts players, led by Brackett and June, took an active role in the event working side by side with the volunteers and assisting the children during their fittings.

According to United Way of Central Indiana, more than 64,000 children in the metropolitan Indianapolis area live in poverty -- enough to more than fill the RCA Dome.

"Giving back to the community where we work and live is important. We hope the several hours we spend with the children at Francis Scott Key will help make their holiday seasons a little brighter with the new shoes and warm hats," Kocher added.

The footwear and hats for the fitting were donated by Genesco's operating divisions, including Journeys, Journeys Kidz, Underground Station, Dockers Footwear and Hat World. In addition, The Timberland Company donated footwear for the fitting.

About Hat World Corporation

Founded in 1995 and comprised of more than 700 mall-based, airport, street level and factory outlet stores nationwide, and in Puerto Rico and Canada primarily under the Lids and Hat World retail brands, Indianapolis-based Hat World Corporation is the specialty retail leader of officially licensed and branded athletic fashion headwear. Hat World also operates smaller retail brands Lids Kids, Hat Zone, Head Quarters and Cap Connection. Most stores offer a vast assortment of college, MLB, NBA, NFL and NHL teams, as well as other specialty fashion categories all in the latest styles and colors. Some stores also offer a strong complementary line of licensed apparel, and custom embroidery capability. Typically offering more than 1,000 different hats in each store, Lids serves the core fan and fashion-conscious and trend-savvy mid-teen to mid-20s customer. Hat World also sells its products and promotes its stores through the Internet sites www.lids.com, www.hatworld.com, www.lidskids.com and www.lidscy.com. In addition, licensed Lids stores operate from premier street locations and kiosks within major department stores in Korea, Hong Kong and China. Hat World is a subsidiary of Genesco Inc.

About Genesco Inc.

Genesco Inc., a Nashville-based specialty retailer, sells footwear, headwear and accessories in more than 1,900 retail stores in the United States and Canada, principally under the names Journeys, Journeys Kidz, Shi by Journeys, Johnston & Murphy, Underground Station, Hatworld, Lids, Hat Zone, Cap Factory, Head Quarters and Cap Connection, and on internet websites www.journeys.com, www.journeyskidz.com, www.undergroundstation.com, www.johnstonmurphy.com, www.lids.com, www.hatworld.com, and www.lidscy.com. The Company also sells footwear at wholesale under its Johnston & Murphy brand and under the licensed Dockers brand. Additional information on Genesco and its operating divisions may be accessed at its website www.genesco.com.

About United Way of Central Indiana

Serving six Central Indiana counties, United Way of Central Indiana (UWCI) helps sustain vital human services by working exclusively with proven human service agencies that direct life changing opportunities. UWCI also helps reduce the needs of future generations by helping ensure that kids enter school ready to learn and leave school ready to earn.

SOURCE Genesco Inc.

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11/28/2006

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