

April 18, 2011



Central Garden & Pet Company Names Gus Halas President and CEO of Central Operating Companies

WALNUT CREEK, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Central Garden & Pet Company (NASDAQ:CENT) (NASDAQ:CENTA), a leading innovator, marketer and producer of quality branded products for the lawn and garden and pet supplies market, today announced the appointment of Gus Halas as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Central Operating Companies, effective April 18, 2011. Mr. Halas will report to William E. Brown, Central's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

Mr. Halas has been a consultant to the Company since 2009. From 2003 to 2009, Mr. Halas was Chairman, President and CEO of T3 Energy Services. He previously served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Clore Automotive and Marley Cooling Tower Company and held senior executive positions with a number of other companies including Ingersoll-Dresser Pump Company and Sulzer Industries.

"Gus is an extraordinarily able businessman with a long record of accomplishment and transformational change and a very high degree of commitment to Central," said Mr. Brown, Central's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "I am very pleased to have him as a working partner and am excited about the future."

About Central Garden & Pet Company

Central Garden & Pet Company is a leading innovator, marketer and producer of quality branded products for the lawn & garden and pet supplies markets. Committed to new product innovation, our products are sold to specialty independent and mass retailers. Participating categories in Lawn & Garden include: Grass seed and the brands [PENNINGTON\(R\)](#), [SMART SEED™](#) and [THE REBELS\(TM\)](#); wild bird feed and the brand [PENNINGTON\(R\)](#); weed and insect control and the brands [AMDRO\(R\)](#), [SEVIN\(R\)](#), [IRONITE\(R\)](#) and [Over 'N Out\(R\)](#); and decorative outdoor patio products and the brands [NORCAL\(R\)](#), [NEW ENGLAND POTTERY\(R\)](#) and [MATTHEWS FOUR SEASONS\(TM\)](#). We also provide a host of other regional and application-specific garden brands and supplies. Participating categories in Pet include: Animal health and the brands [ADAMS\(TM\)](#) and [ZODIAC\(R\)](#); aquatics and reptile and the brands [OCEANIC\(R\)](#), [AQUEON\(TM\)](#) and [ZILLA\(TM\)](#); bird & small animal and the brands [KAYTEE\(R\)](#), [SUPER PET\(R\)](#) and CRITTER TRAIL(R); dog & cat and the brands [TFH\(R\)](#), [NYLABONE\(R\)](#), [FOUR PAWS\(R\)](#), [PINNACLE\(R\)](#) and [Avoderm\(R\)](#); and equine and the brands [FARNAM\(R\)](#), [BRONCO\(R\)](#) and [SUPER MASK\(R\)](#). We also provide a host of other application-specific Pet brands and

supplies. Central Garden & Pet Company is based in Walnut Creek, California, and has approximately 4,300 employees, primarily in North America and Europe. For additional information on Central Garden & Pet Company, including access to the Company's SEC filings, please visit the Company's website at www.central.com.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: The statements contained in this release which are not historical facts are forward-looking statements that are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in or implied by forward-looking statements. These risks are described in the Central's Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed November 19, 2010, and Central's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, filed February 3, 2011, and other Securities and Exchange Commission filings. Central undertakes no obligation to publicly update these forward-looking statements to reflect new information, subsequent events or otherwise.

Source: Central Garden & Pet Company