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Ball to Close Brampton, Ontario, Plastic Packaging Plant

BROOMFIELD, Colo., June 26 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Ball Corporation (NYSE: BLL) announced today that it plans to close its plastic packaging manufacturing plant in Brampton, Ontario. The closed operations will be consolidated into the company's other plastic packaging manufacturing facilities in North America. The closure is expected to occur by the end of the third quarter of 2008.

The action will result in an after-tax charge of approximately $5 million, of which approximately $2 million will be recorded in the second quarter of 2008. The remaining costs will be recorded in the second half of 2008 as they are incurred. The closure is expected to result in annual, fixed-cost savings of approximately $4 million beginning in 2009.

The Brampton plant manufactures polypropylene bottles for foods. Ball acquired the facility in 2006 with the company's acquisition of certain North American plastic bottle container assets of Alcan Packaging.

Brampton employees will be provided severance and outplacement services. The plant employs approximately 90 people.

Ball Corporation is a supplier of high-quality metal and plastic packaging for beverage, food and household products customers, and of aerospace and other technologies and services, primarily for the U.S. government. Ball Corporation and its subsidiaries employ more than 15,500 people worldwide and reported 2007 sales of approximately $7.4 billion.

Forward-Looking Statements

This release contains "forward-looking" statements concerning future events and financial performance. Words such as "expects," "anticipates," "estimates" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied. The company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Key risks and uncertainties are summarized in filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including Exhibit 99.2 in our Form 10-K, which are available at our Web site and at http://www.sec.gov. Factors that might affect our packaging segments include fluctuation in product demand and preferences; availability and cost of raw materials, including recent significant increases in resin, steel, aluminum and energy costs, and the ability to pass such increases on to customers; competitive packaging availability, pricing

and substitution; changes in climate and weather; crop yields; competitive activity; failure to achieve anticipated productivity improvements or production cost reductions, including our beverage can end project; mandatory deposit or other restrictive packaging laws; changes in major customer or supplier contracts or loss of a major customer or supplier; and changes in foreign exchange rates, tax rates and activities of foreign subsidiaries. Factors that might affect our aerospace segment include: funding, authorization, availability and returns of government and commercial contracts; and delays, extensions and technical uncertainties affecting segment contracts. Factors that might affect the company as a whole include those listed plus: accounting changes; changes in senior management; successful or unsuccessful acquisitions, joint ventures or divestitures; integration of recently acquired businesses; regulatory action or laws including tax, environmental, health and workplace safety, including in respect of chemicals or substances used in raw materials or in the manufacturing process; governmental investigations; technological developments and innovations; goodwill impairment; antitrust, patent and other litigation; strikes; labor cost changes; rates of return projected and earned on assets of the company's defined benefit retirement plans; pension changes; reduced cash flow; interest rates affecting our debt; and changes to unaudited results due to statutory audits or other effects.

SOURCE Ball Corporation