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Note to media: These backpacks are not available to the general public. The backpacks are being donated only to the designated recipients named below.

**OFFICE DEPOT FOUNDATION DONATES 7,500 BACKPACKS
TO HELP MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CHILDREN SUCCEED IN SCHOOL**

*National Backpack Program Celebrates 10th Anniversary;
More Than 2.3 Million Backpacks Given Away Since 2001*

Miami, Fla., August 4, 2010 – What weighs as much as seven blue whales, stands taller than 10,000 giraffes, stretches from Denver to Kansas City – and gives children hope? The answer is 2.3 million backpacks, of course, which happens to be the number of backpacks that the Office Depot Foundation has given away to deserving children since it established its National Backpack Program 10 years ago.

On Thursday, August 5, the Office Depot Foundation will donate more than 7,500 backpacks containing essential school supplies to children served by non-profit organizations and schools in the Miami area. The Foundation, which serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot® (NYSE:ODP), will present the backpacks during a special “Back-to-School Backpack Celebration” beginning at 2:30 p.m. at the Office Depot store located at 8950 S.W. 137th Ave. in Miami.

Earlier in the day, the Foundation also will donate 7,500 backpacks for children in Broward County.

This year, the Office Depot Foundation is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its National Backpack Program. “Every year, we have seen our backpacks bring hope to children whose families might not be able to afford to buy them a new backpack,” says Mary Wong, president of the Office Depot Foundation. “Parents and teachers alike tell us that we truly are helping children to build self-confidence, boost self-esteem and achieve greater success in the classroom – all as a result of being properly prepared for school.”

Special guests scheduled to participate in the backpack presentations include Wayne Carter, Assistant Director of Constituent Services for Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez; Florida State Representative Manuel Llorente; Yamel Bencosme, Staff Assistant, representing Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart; City of Miami Councilman Wilfredo “Willy” Gort; Miami-Dade Commissioner Joe A. Martinez; and representing Miami-Dade Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, Lorena Guerra, Director of Public Affairs and Media, and Manuel Orbis, Legislative Assistant.



The non-profit organizations, schools and agencies scheduled to receive backpacks during the August 5 donation event include:

- 100 Black Men of South Florida
- Amigos For Kids
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Miami
- Bridging The Gap Organization
- CCDH, Inc.
- CMB Visions Unlimited
- Communities in Schools of Miami
- Embrace Girl Power! After School Programs & Camps
- FIU Holiday Celebration for Children
- Kristi House
- Miami-Dade County Public Schools
- The Nat Moore Foundation
- New Hope Development Center
- Optimist Club of Kendall Hammocks
- Upper Room Outreach Ministries of South Florida

To distribute the backpacks in 2010, the Foundation is hosting 25 “Back-to-School Backpack Celebrations” in cities across the U.S. and Canada – five of which will include Tony Stewart, driver of the No. 14 Office Depot/Old Spice Chevy Impala in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series™. Thousands of backpacks also are being donated by Office Depot stores in hundreds of local communities and in collaboration with Office Depot’s Business Solutions Division in select cities.

Thousands more backpacks are being given to children through the Office Depot Foundation’s partnerships with national non-profit organizations – including the Tony Stewart Foundation, the National Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Association, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), Feed The Children, the Kids In Need Foundation, Nourish America, Zach Bonner’s Little Red Wagon Foundation and the National Foundation for Women Legislators, whose members once again will donate backpacks in all 50 states. For the third consecutive year, backpack donations will be made to children of the Navajo Nation in Arizona and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in South Dakota.

You can find more fun facts about the National Backpack Program on the Office Depot Foundation page on Facebook and follow the Foundation on Twitter by visiting www.twitter.com/officedepotfndn. For more information on the Office Depot Foundation and its initiatives, go to www.officedepotfoundation.org/.

About the Office Depot Foundation

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation (tax exempt under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3)) that serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot, Inc. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care®, the Foundation supports a variety of programs that help children succeed in school and in life; enable civil society (non-profit) organizations to become more efficient and effective; help people and businesses prepare for disasters, then recover and rebuild afterwards; strengthen local communities through grants, product donations and volunteerism; and encourage community development through entrepreneurship and economic innovation. For more information, visit www.officedepotfoundation.org.



