Unilever Recognized as Best Place to Work by Human Rights Campaign Friday, November 23, 2012 02:00:00 PM (GMT)

Company Scores 100 Percent Rating on 2013 LGBT Equality Index

Unilever has again been named one of Human Rights Campaign's "Best Places to Work", achieving a perfect score of 100 percent on the organization's 2013 Corporate Equality Index for the fifth year running. The ranking recognizes the company's commitment to diversity and inclusion in the workplace, marketplace and community.

The Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender civil rights organization, uses the Corporate Equality Index as a measure to rank U.S. companies on their treatment of LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) employees, consumers and investors.

"We are honored to be named a Best Place to Work by Human Rights Campaign and it is a great external recognition of our efforts and commitment to furthering equal rights for everyone in the workplace," said Sumeet Salwan, Unilever's Vice President, Human Resources. "We work vigorously to offer a workplace where all of our professionals can thrive."

"At Unilever, we strive to create an inclusive culture for all employees, which in turn enables us to attract and retain top talent within the industry," said Michael Baier, Human Resources Business Partner and Global PRIDE chairperson at Unilever. "We are proud of our collective differences and the Corporate Equality Index ranking reaffirms our strong commitment to our diverse and dynamic workforce."

Unilever supports the LGBT community at work through its PRIDE Network. PRIDE (**People Respecting Individuality, Diversity and Equality**) is an LGBT Diversity Network open to all Unilever employees that share a common goal of endorsing respect, individuality, diversity, and equality throughout the organization. It creates and maintains an open workplace environment for the LGBT community and helps develop its members by providing both business and social interaction with the purpose of furthering personal growth.

Unilever was also recently recognized as a top company for LGBT Equality by Work Life Matters Magazine.

The Human Rights Campaign's 2013 Corporate Equality Index records a decade of progress in workplace equality with strict criteria regarding transgender health benefits. The Corporate Equality Index rates companies on 40 specific policies and practices, 32 of which are either new or more demanding than in previous years.

To achieve a perfect score, companies must have fully inclusive equal employment opportunity policies, provide equal employment benefits, demonstrate organizational LGBT competency, evidence their commitment to equality publicly and exercise responsible citizenship. This year's Corporate Equality Index tells a powerful story of American businesses working to meet that higher bar.

Unilever was among 889 U.S. companies rated this year, with only 252 participants earning a perfect score of 100 percent. A full summary of the ranking can be found at: http://www.hrc.org/cei.

About Unilever United States, Inc.

Unilever is one of the world's leading suppliers of fast moving consumer goods with strong operations in more than 100 countries and sales in 190. Consumers buy 170 billion Unilever packs around the world every year, and our products are used over two billion times a day. In the United States, the portfolio includes brand icons such as: Axe, Ben & Jerry's, Bertolli, Breyers, Caress, Clear Scalp & Hair Therapy, Consort For Men, Country Crock, Degree, Dove personal care products, Good Humor, Hellmann's, I Can't Believe It's Not Butter!, Just for Me!, Klondike, Knorr, Lever 2000, Lipton, Magnum, Motions, Nexxus, Noxzema, Pond's, Popsicle, Promise, Q-tips, Ragú, Simple, Skippy, Slim-Fast, Soft & Beautiful, St. Ives, Suave, tcb, TIGI, TRESemmé, Vaseline, and Wish-Bone. All of the preceding brand names are trademarks or registered trademarks of the Unilever Group of Companies.

Our ambition is to double the size of our business, while reducing our overall environmental impact (including sourcing, consumer use and disposal). We are also committed to doing what we can to improve

health, nutrition and hygiene, with goals to help more than a billion people take action to improve their health and well-being, as well as to source all our agricultural raw materials sustainably by 2020. Supporting our three big goals are more than 50 time-based targets in the Unilever Sustainable Living Plan.

Unilever employs more than 11,000 people in the United States – generating over \$8 billion in sales in 2011. For more information, visit www.unileverusa.com.

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