

## Press Releases

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **PETCO**

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### **PETCO Animal Supplies, Inc. Begins Trading On the Nasdaq National Market**

**San Diego, CA, February 22, 2002** - PETCO Animal Supplies, Inc. today announced that its newly issued common stock began trading on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol "PETC"

Yesterday, PETCO announced that its initial public offering of 14,500,000 shares of common stock has been priced at \$19.00 per share. The underwriters have an option to purchase up to 1,000,000 additional shares from PETCO and an aggregate of 1,175,000 additional shares from certain selling stockholders to cover over-allotments, if any.

Brian K. Devine, Chairman, President and CEO said, "We are delighted to return to the Nasdaq National Market today as we further develop the PETCO brand."

Copies of the prospectus relating to the offering can be obtained from the offices of Merrill Lynch & Co. at 4 World Financial Center, New York, New York 10281-1327.

This press release appears as a matter of record only and does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any state or other jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the security laws of any such state or other jurisdiction. A registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with and has been declared effective by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

PETCO is a leading specialty retailer of premium pet food and supplies and operates 561 stores in 41 states and the District of Columbia as well as a destination for on-line pet food and supplies at [www.petco.com](http://www.petco.com).

Certain statements in this news release that are not historical fact constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results of PETCO to be materially different from historical results or from any results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These factors, such as performance of new superstores, ability to execute expansion strategy and sustain growth, debt levels, reliance on vendors and exclusive distribution arrangements, competition, integration of operations as a result of acquisitions and dependence on senior management, are discussed under the caption "Risk Factors" in PETCO's Form S-1 on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.