



UNI-SELECT®

170, BOUL. INDUSTRIEL
BOUCHERVILLE (QUÉBEC) CANADA J4B 2X3
TÉL. : (450) 641-2440 FAX : (450) 449-4908

PRESS RELEASE

Source: UNI-SELECT INC. Tel.: (450) 641-2440
Contacts: Jacques Landreville www.uni-select.com
President and Chief Executive Officer
Source: ACKLANDS-GRAINGER INC. Tel.: (905) 709-5585
Contacts: Douglas Harrison
President

UNI-SELECT INTENDS TO PURCHASE ALL OF USI-AGI PRAIRIES

Boucherville, Quebec – March 14, 2006 – On February 1 2002, Uni-Select and Acklands-Grainger Inc. pooled their automotive sales and distribution assets in a joint venture operated by Uni-Select and known as USI-AGI Prairies Inc.

Uni-Select has decided to exercise its call option under the terms of the shareholders agreement between the parties, and will purchase all of the shares held by Acklands-Grainger in USI-AGI Prairies. The purchase terms and conditions are set out in the shareholders agreement. Uni-Select intends to close this transaction and become sole shareholder of USI-AGI Prairies on May 31 2006.

“This joint venture has been successful and beneficial to both Acklands-Grainger and Uni-Select,” offered Jacques Landreville, President and Chief Executive Officer of Uni-Select. *“However, as time passed, it became obvious that each partner is intent on focusing its resources on its core operations. As the operations of USI-AGI Prairies are clearly the market segment of Uni-Select, it was natural for Uni-Select to want to purchase those assets.”*

“Uni-Select and Acklands-Grainger have built a solid business relationship as joint venture partners, and plan to continue that relationship through a long-term supply agreement,” said Douglas Harrison, President of Acklands-Grainger.

Uni-Select estimates that this business development will add \$3,800,000 to its pre tax profit on an annualized basis.

Uni-Select is Canada’s second largest distributor of automotive replacement parts, equipment, tools and accessories and through Uni-Select USA, Inc., the company also provides service to customers in the United States where it is the 8th largest distributor. Its subsidiary, Palmar Inc., sells replacement parts, tools and accessories for heavy-duty vehicles and wheels in Canada. The Uni-Select Network includes over 2,000 independent jobbers and services over 3,100 points of sale in Canada and the United States. Uni-Select is headquartered in Montreal. Uni-Select shares (UNS) are traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX).

Acklands-Grainger is Canada’s leading broad-line distributor of industrial, fleet and safety products. Acklands-Grainger is a wholly owned subsidiary of W.W.Grainger, Inc. (NYSE: GWW), the leading broad line supplier of facilities maintenance products serving businesses and institutions throughout North America. Through a highly integrated network including nearly 600 branches, 18 distribution centers and multiple Web sites, Grainger's employees help customers get the job done, saving them time and money by having the right products to keep their facilities running.