

PRESS RELEASE

CORPORATE EXPRESS: UNSOLICITED PROPOSAL BY STAPLES

Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 19 February 2008 - Corporate Express NV confirmed receipt of an unsolicited proposal made by Staples today.

Corporate Express is of the opinion that this proposal significantly undervalues the company and fails to reflect Corporate Express' prospects. We do not believe the proposal is in the best interests of our shareholders and other stakeholders. We therefore reject this proposal and reiterate our commitment to pursuing our declared strategy.

Financial calendar

Annual General Meeting of Shareholders 2007:	Tuesday 8 April 2008
Publication first quarter results 2008:	Wednesday 7 May 2008
Publication second quarter results 2008:	Wednesday 6 August 2008
Publication third quarter results 2008:	Wednesday 5 November 2008

About Corporate Express

Corporate Express provides customers with a single source of business products and services, so they can focus their energy and time on their core business. Corporate Express helps organisations to save time and maximize their productivity.

Headquartered in the Netherlands, Corporate Express generated 2006 annual sales of EUR 6.3 billion. The Company has a widespread global distribution network spanning North America, Europe and Australia, has close to 19,000 employees, and operations in 20 countries. Corporate Express is listed on Euronext Amsterdam (Euronext: CXP) and in New York (NYSE: CXP). For more information, please visit: www.cexpgroup.com

For more information

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Safe Harbour Statement

Statements included in this press release, which are not historical facts are forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbour provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such forward-looking statements are made based upon management's expectations and beliefs concerning future events impacting Corporate Express and therefore involve a number of uncertainties and risks, including, but not limited to industry conditions, changes in product supply, pricing and customer demand, competition, risks in integrating new businesses, currency fluctuations, and the other risks described from time to time in the Company's filings with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, including the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 9, 2007. As a result, the actual results of operations or financial conditions of the Company could differ materially from those expressed or implied in such forward-looking statements. Shareholders and other readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date on which they are made. The Company undertakes no obligation to update publicly or revise any forward-looking statements.