

For Immediate Release



News

Abbott Announces 11 Percent Increase in Quarterly Dividend

Company Declares 341st Consecutive Quarterly Dividend

ABBOTT PARK, Ill., Feb. 20, 2009 — The board of directors of Abbott today increased the company's quarterly common dividend 11 percent to 40 cents per share.

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This marks the 37th consecutive year that Abbott has increased its dividend payout and the 341st consecutive quarterly dividend to be paid by Abbott since 1924. The cash dividend is payable May 15, 2009, to shareholders of record at the close of business on April 15, 2009.

Abbott has been named by a leading financial media outlet as one of its [top five dividend stocks](#). Additionally, Abbott is a top performer of the [S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats Index](#), which tracks companies that have annually increased their dividend for 25 consecutive years.

About Abbott

Abbott is a global, broad-based health care company devoted to the discovery, development, manufacture and marketing of pharmaceuticals and medical products, including nutritionals, devices and diagnostics. The company employs approximately 69,000 people and markets its products in more than 130 countries.

Abbott's news releases and other information are available on the company's Web site at www.abbott.com.

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