



For Immediate Release

OFFICEMAX AND SHOPA FOUNDATION TEAM UP TO PROVIDE THOUSANDS OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO STUDENTS DISPLACED BY HURRICANE KATRINA

Dayton, OH – September 19, 2005 – In the urban areas of Houston, Dallas, San Antonio and others, where the demand for school supplies is already high and the means of providing them is woefully low, school districts are preparing for an influx of students displaced by Hurricane Katrina. OfficeMax® and the SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation are combining their resources to bring relief to school districts doubling or even tripling their school enrollments virtually overnight.

OfficeMax is leading the efforts over the next few months to help the SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation ship thousands of school supply kits containing necessities such as notebooks, glue, and crayons to schools across the country that are accepting students displaced by the hurricane. OfficeMax is also donating \$50,000 to help the SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation replenish school supplies needed for displaced hurricane children.

OfficeMax, one of the nation's largest office supply retailers, is a member of and has been a major contributor to SHOPA, the School, Home, & Office Products Association (SHOPA), the trade association for the school and office products industry. The SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation provides free school supplies to children in need and teachers in low-income school districts. OfficeMax is a sponsor of the Kids In Need Resource Center in Cleveland and contributes funds and school supplies to various Kids In Need Resource Centers nationwide.

“OfficeMax is honored to coordinate an industry effort with the SHOPA Foundation to donate school supplies for Hurricane Katrina victims,” said Ryan Vero, chief merchandising officer at OfficeMax. “When families were forced away from their homes, they left everything, including school supplies needed to start the school year. Through the donation of school supplies, we hope to overcome this obstacle, as families and children cope with their transitions and seek to maintain their educational progress.”

“We are accepting donations of both cash and product from manufacturers, resellers, and distributors of school and office products. We thank OfficeMax for their past support and for stepping forward to take a leadership role in providing supplies to schools that are receiving students displaced by Hurricane Katrina,” said Steven Jacober, president of SHOPA and the SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation. “We have processes in place that can distribute these supplies efficiently. This is what the SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation does year round.”

Companies or individuals wishing to contribute funds or products can do so by visiting the SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation Web site at www.kidsinneed.net or by calling the Foundation at 800-854-7467.

About OfficeMax® Incorporated

OfficeMax® is a leader in both business-to-business office product solutions and retail office products. OfficeMax delivers an unparalleled customer experience – in service, in product, in time savings, and in

value – through a relentless focus on its customers. The company provides office supplies and paper, print and document services, technology products and solutions, and furniture to large, medium, and small businesses and consumers. OfficeMax customers are served by approximately 40,000 associates through direct sales, catalogs, Internet, and nearly 1,000 superstores. OfficeMax trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol OMX. To find the nearest OfficeMax, call 1-877-OFFICEMAX or more information can be found at www.officemax.com.

About the SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation

The SHOPA Kids In Need Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. Through its National Network of Kids In Need Resource Centers approximately 65,000 teachers shop each year for supplies needed by their students. No teacher, school, or student is ever charged for the supplies. In addition to the Kids In Need Resource Centers, the Foundation also conducts an annual Teacher Grants program, funding innovative classroom projects. For more information, visit www.kidsinneed.net.

About SHOPA

SHOPA, founded in 1991, is a nonprofit trade association representing nearly 1,200 manufacturers, manufacturer representatives, retailers, wholesalers, distributors, commercial/contract stationers, and service companies involved in the production, distribution, and sale of school supplies and office products. The Association also produces SBTS (SHOPA Buyer-to-Seller) Marketplace events, which facilitate pre-scheduled and one-on-one meetings. SHOPA, in cooperation with Messe Frankfurt and PROPAPER, is producing Paperworld USA in November, the international trade event for the school, home, and office products industry. For more information, visit www.shopa.org.

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