



Colgate-Palmolive Company Reconfirms External Earnings Expectations in Conjunction with Merrill Lynch Conference

NEW YORK, March 19, 2002, Colgate-Palmolive Chairman and CEO Reuben Mark will present on Wednesday, March 20, at the Merrill Lynch Global Branded Consumer Products Conference.

In conjunction with tomorrow's presentation, Colgate-Palmolive today reconfirms external estimates for first quarter and year 2002 earnings. Mr. Mark is expected to discuss the Company's performance and why strong good quality growth will continue.

Investors may access a live webcast of this presentation on Colgate's internet site at www.colgatepalmolive.com on Wednesday, March 20, at 8:00 a.m. EST.

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Colgate-Palmolive is a leading global consumer products company, tightly focused on Oral Care, Personal Care, Household Surface Care, Fabric Care and Pet Nutrition. Colgate sells its products in over 200 countries and territories around the world under such internationally recognized brand names as Colgate, Palmolive, Mennen, Softsoap, Irish Spring, Protex, Sorriso, Kolynos, Ajax, Axion, Soupline, Suavitel and Fab, as well as Hill's Science Diet and Hill's Prescription Diet pet foods. For more information about Colgate's global business, visit the Company's web site on the Internet at <http://www.colgatepalmolive.com>.

This press release and the subject presentation (other than historical information) may contain forward-looking statements. Actual events or results may differ materially from those statements. Investors should consult the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (including the Company's Form 8-K dated November 13, 1998) for information about factors that could cause such differences. Copies of these filings may be obtained upon request from the Company's Investor Relations Department.