

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release**

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## **LE CHÂTEAU REPORTS STRONG CHRISTMAS SALES**

**Montreal, January 10, 2003** – Le Château Inc. (TSX: CTU.A) today reported strong increases in sales during the Christmas holiday period. Sales for the 5 weeks ended December 28, 2002 increased 13.8% and comparable store sales increased 14.8%.

For the fourth quarter to date, being the ten weeks ended January 4, 2003, sales increased 14.8% and comparable store sales increased 15.9%.

For the year to date, being the forty-nine weeks ended January 4, 2003, sales increased 16.6% and comparable store sales increased 18.7%.

Le Château will release full year results in April.

### **Profile**

Le Château is a leading Canadian specialty retailer offering fashion-forward apparel, accessories and footwear at value prices to style-conscious women and men. Our *JUNIOR GIRL* division attracts the rapidly increasing market of “tweens” aged 8 to 14.

Le Château brand name clothing is sold exclusively through our 153 retail locations—which average 3,500 square feet in size. In addition, the Company operates eight Le Château Fashion Outlet Stores and two Franchised Outlet Stores. All stores are in Canada, except for four locations in the New York City area.

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### **Forward-Looking Statements**

Except for historical information provided herein, this press release may contain information and statements of a forward-looking nature concerning the future performance of the Company. These statements are based on suppositions and uncertainties as well as on management's best possible evaluation of future events. Such factors may include, without excluding other considerations, fluctuations in quarterly results, evolution in customer demand for the Company's products and services, the impact of price pressures exerted by competitors, and general market trends or economic changes. As a result, readers are advised that actual results may differ from expected results.